

KIRKMAN • WALKER • FAIRBAIRN

INVINCIBLE™



VOLUME TWENTY-THREE

FULL HOUSE

EF



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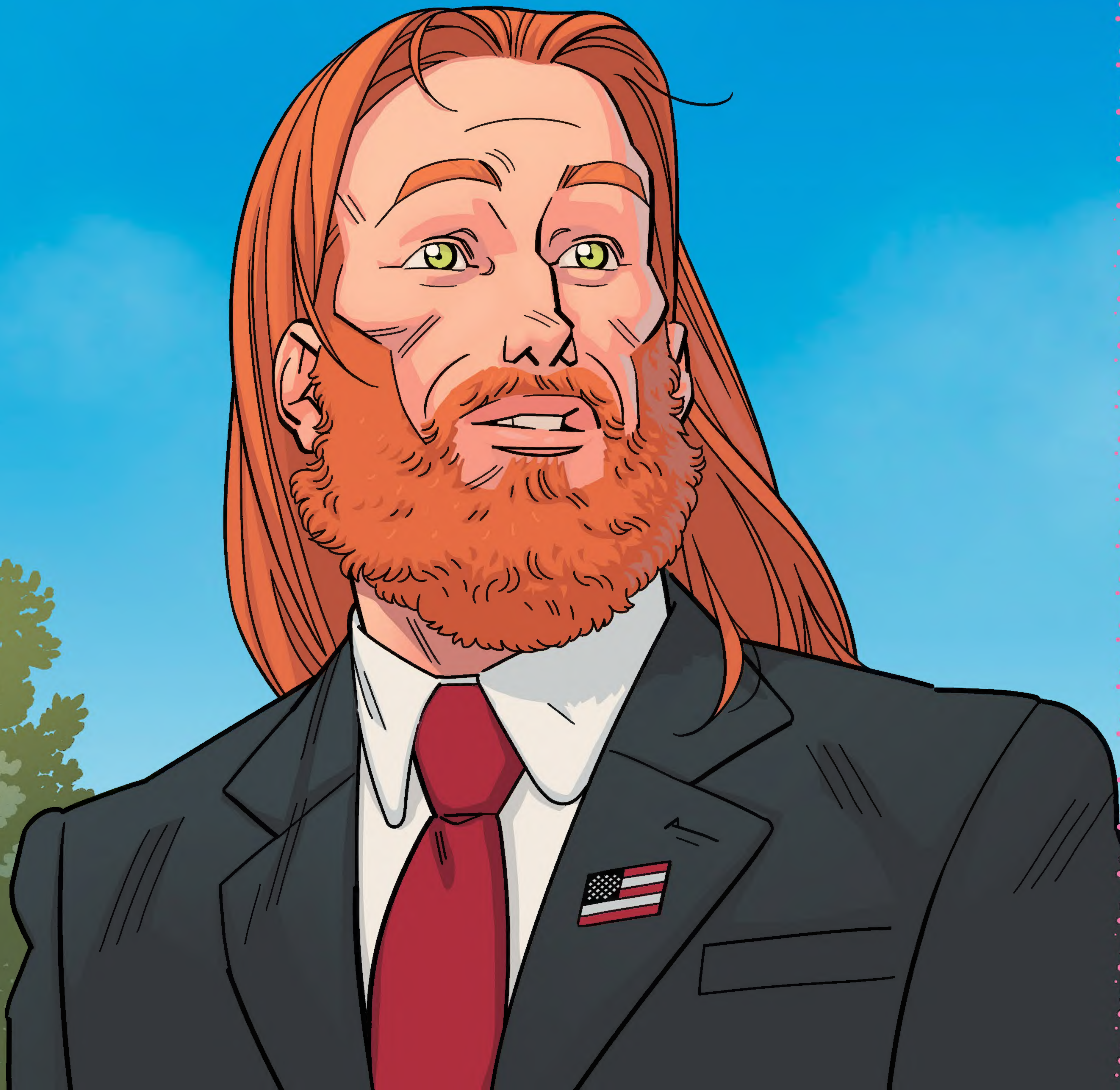
INVINCIBLE™

FULL HOUSE



CREATED BY
**ROBERT KIRKMAN
& CORY WALKER**

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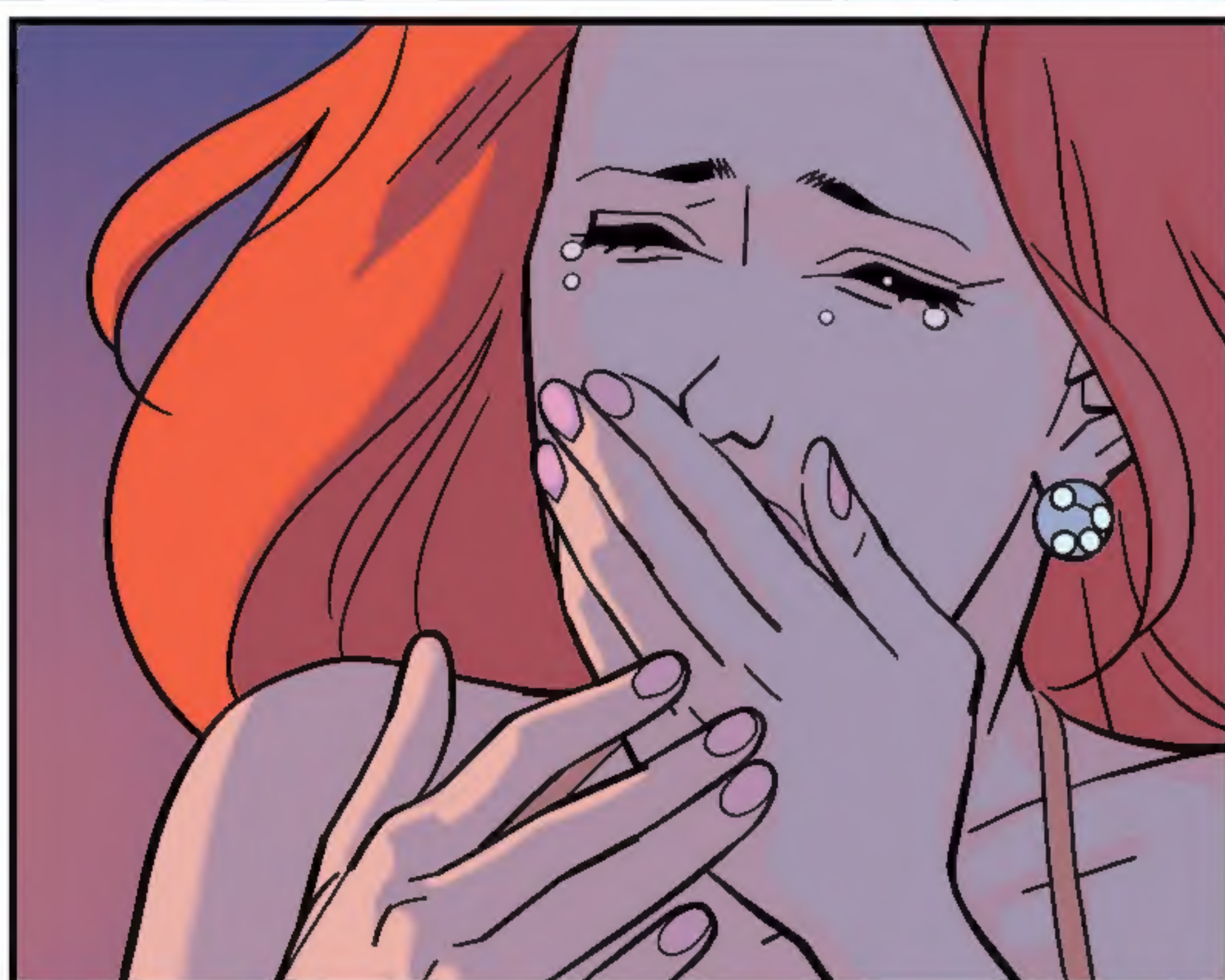
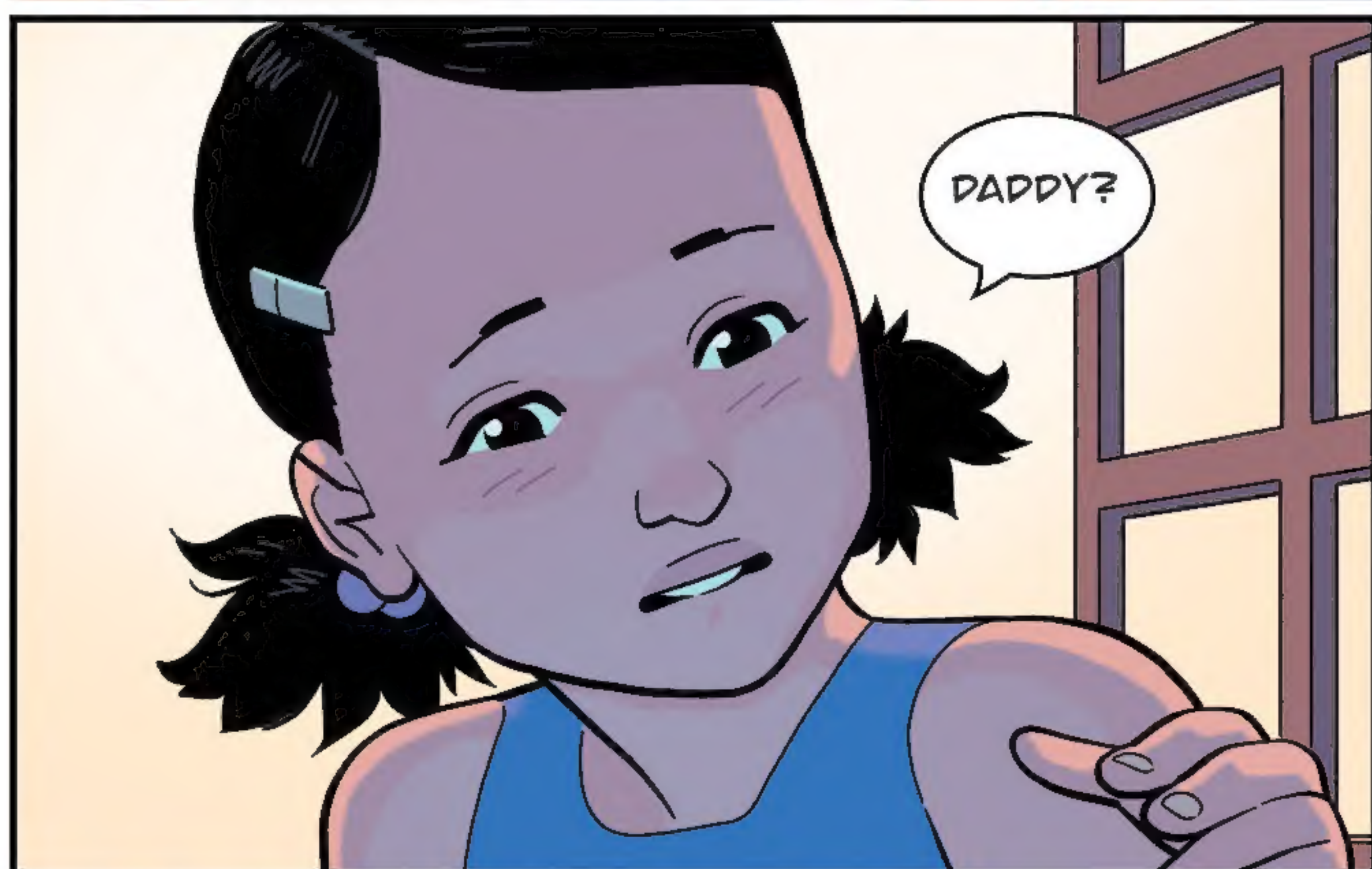
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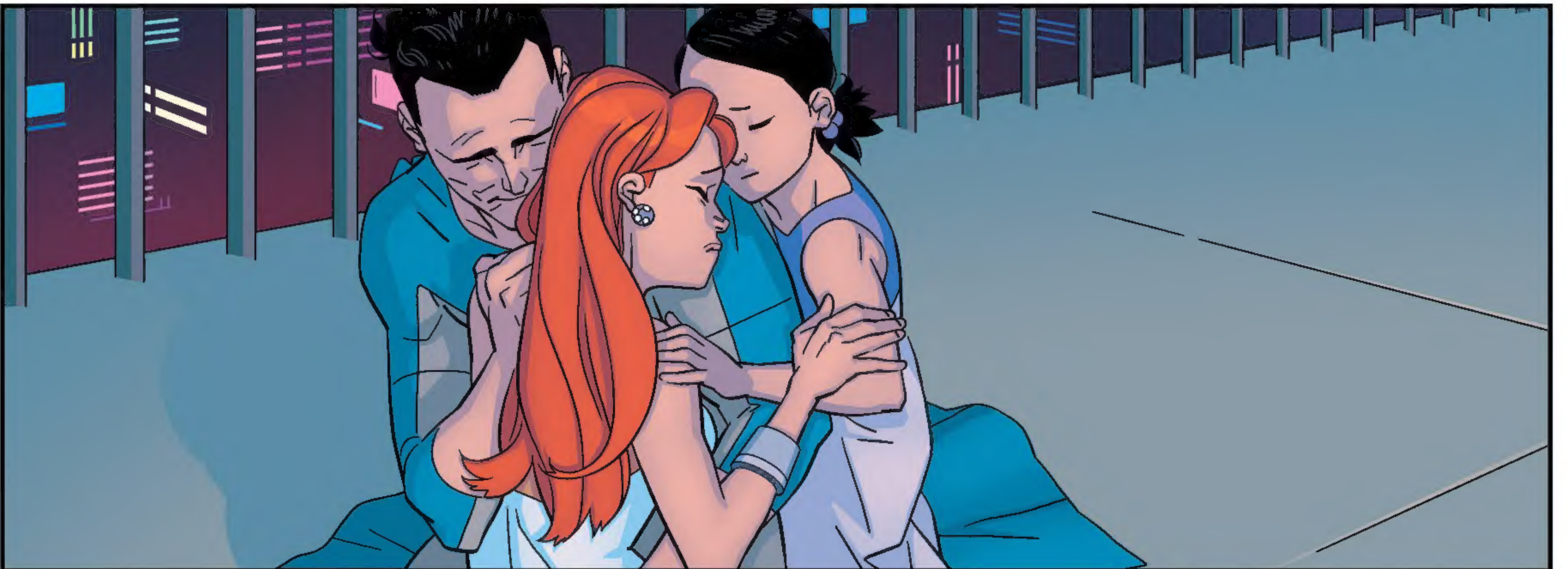
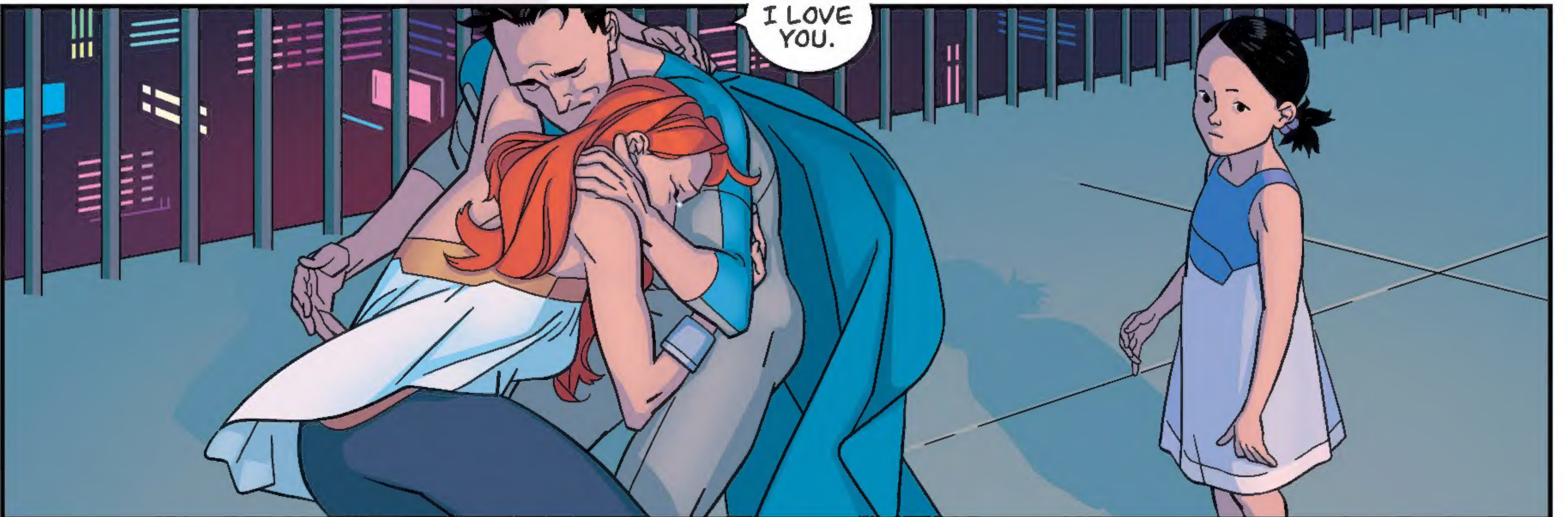
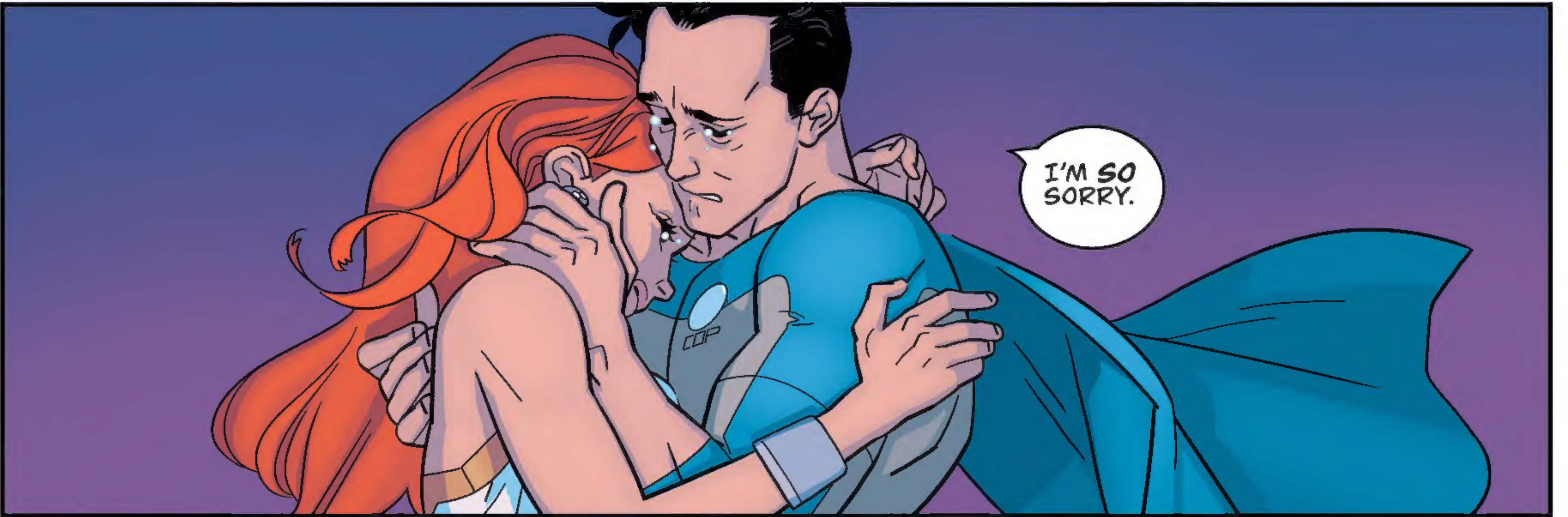
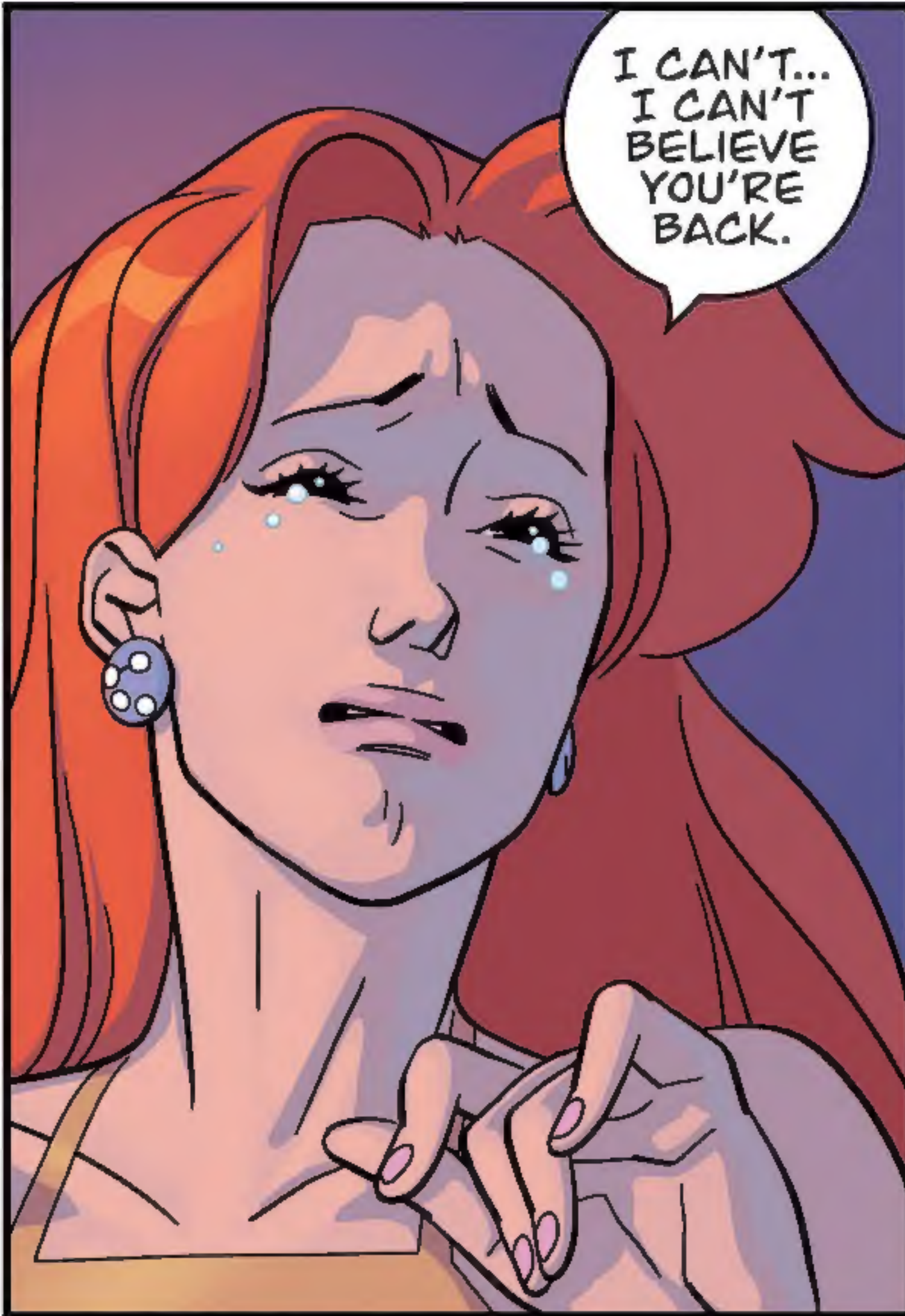


CHAPTER ONE











IT'S NOT USUALLY THAT HARD TO GET HER TO GO TO SLEEP, BUT WHO CAN BLAME HER...

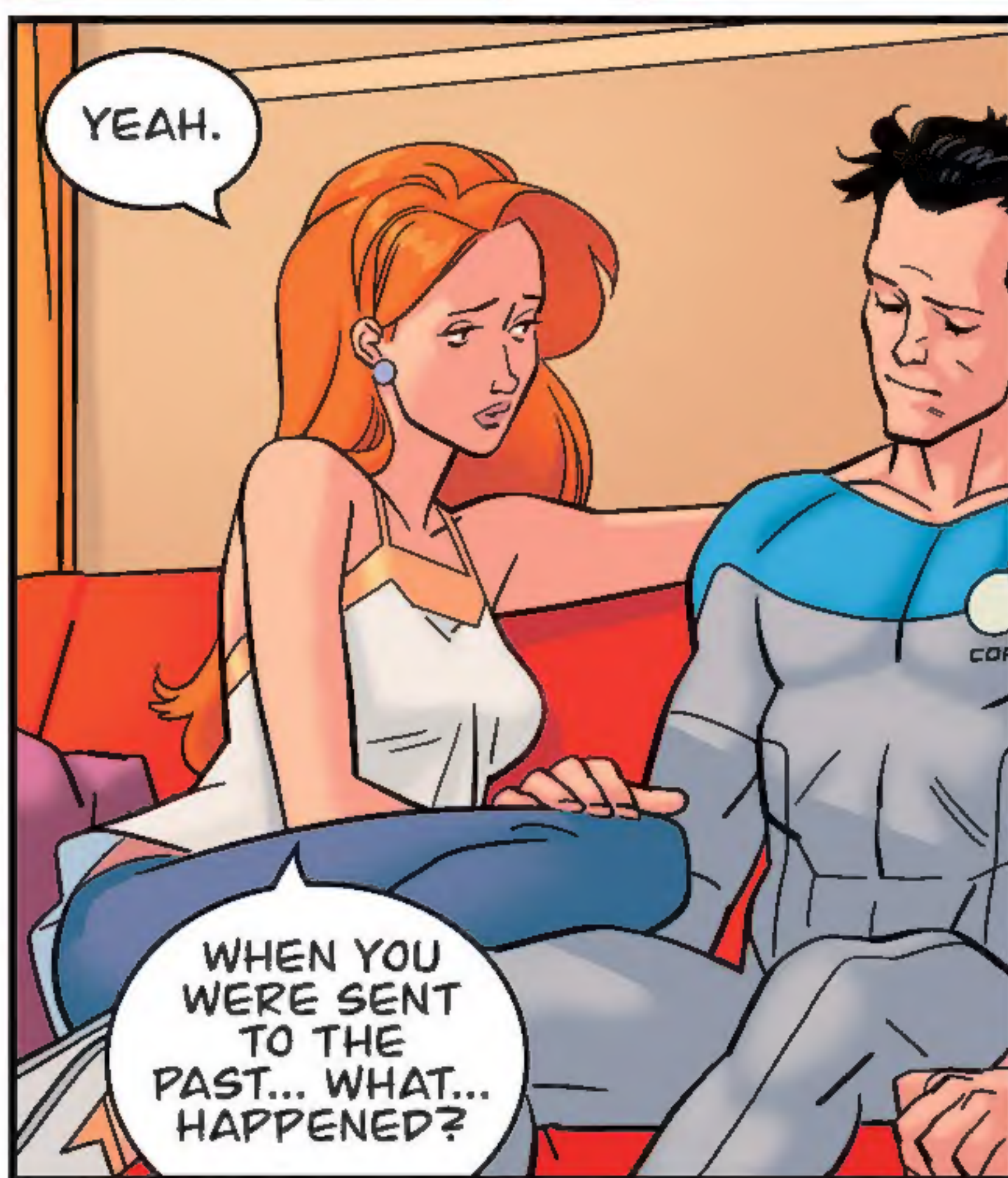
THIS IS... IT'S ALL JUST TOO MUCH.



ARE YOU OKAY?

I THINK WE CAN BOTH AGREE IT'S GOING TO TAKE A WHILE BEFORE EITHER OF US IS "OKAY."

RIGHT?

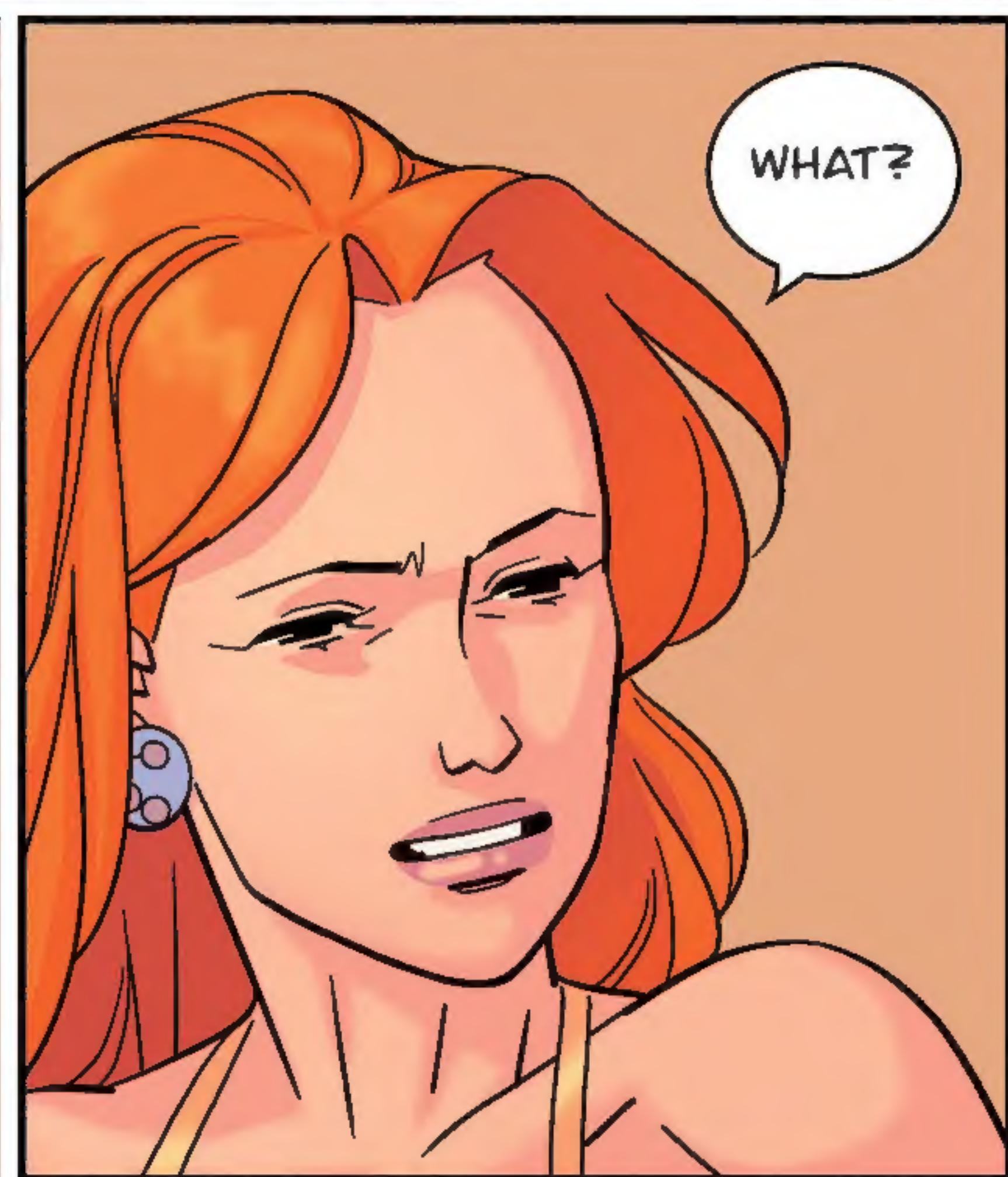


YEAH.

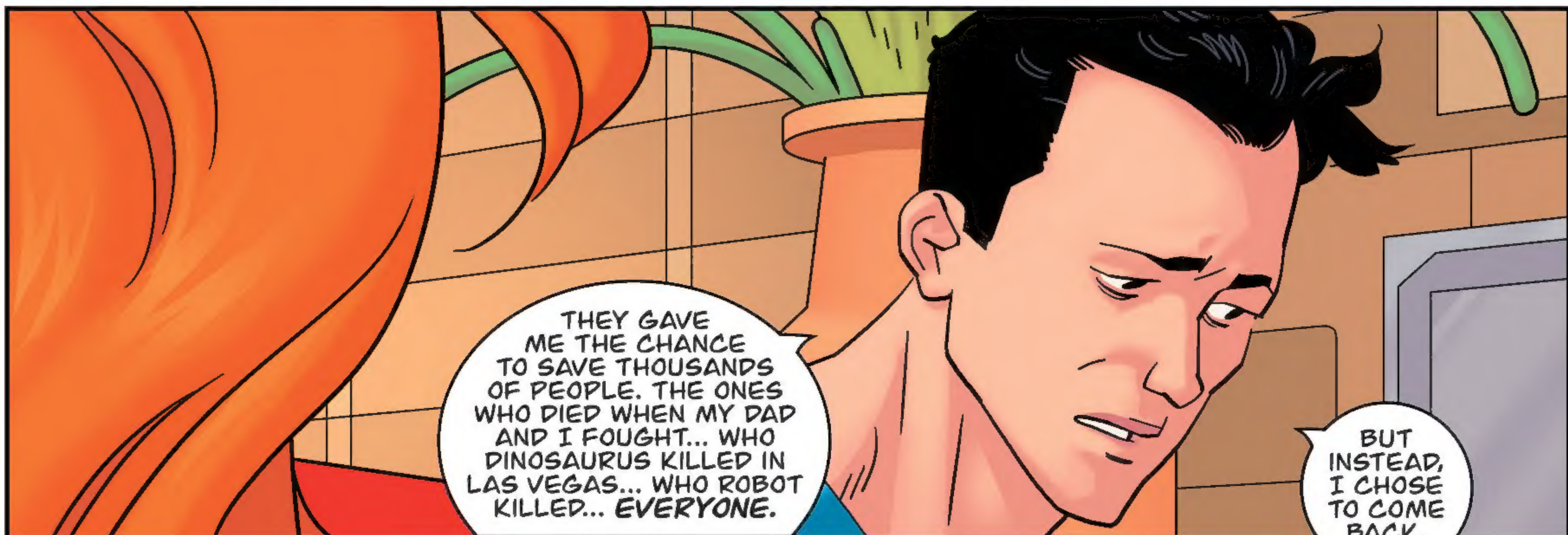
WHEN YOU WERE SENT TO THE PAST... WHAT... HAPPENED?



I LEARNED I'M NOT A HERO.

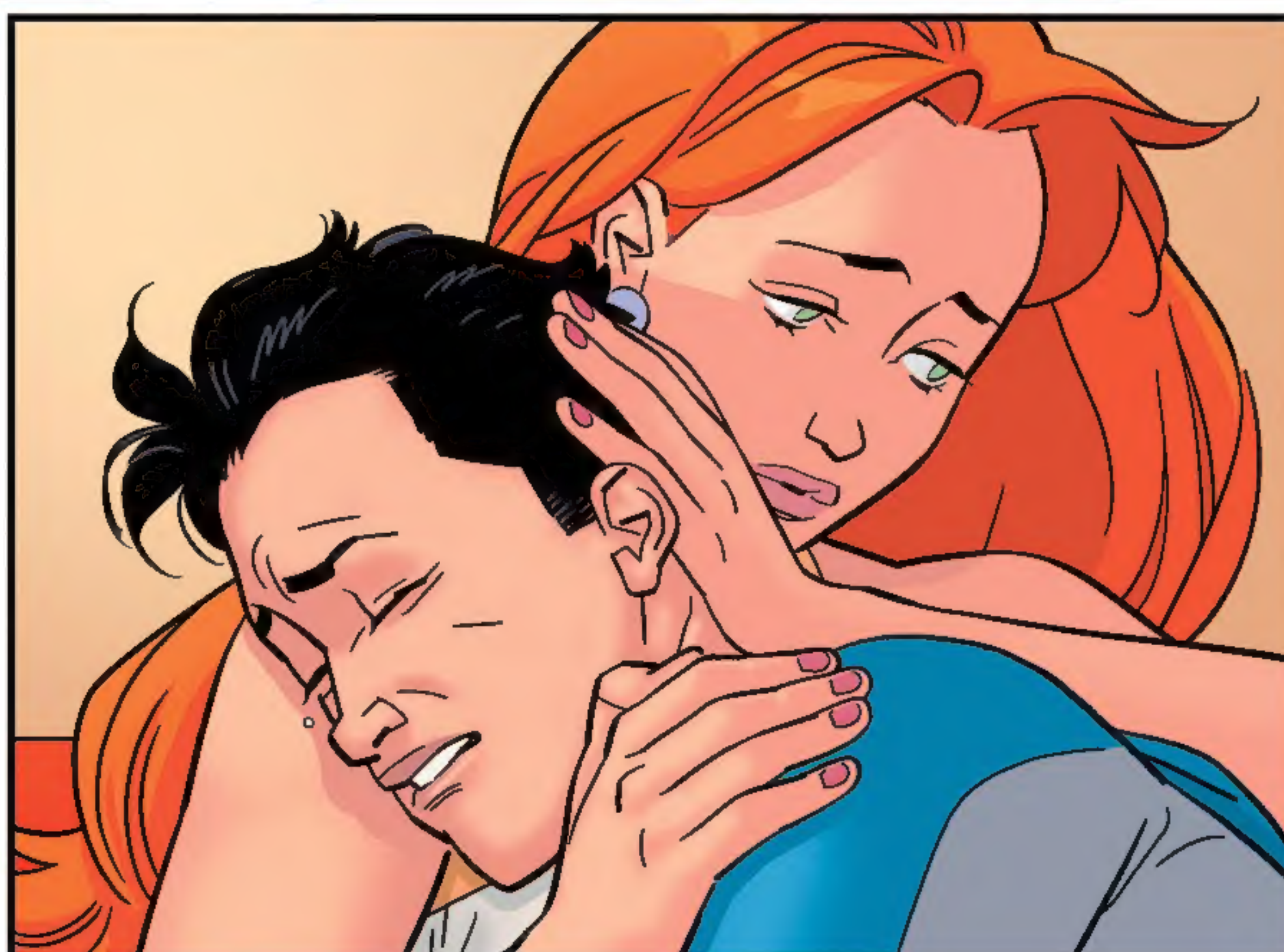
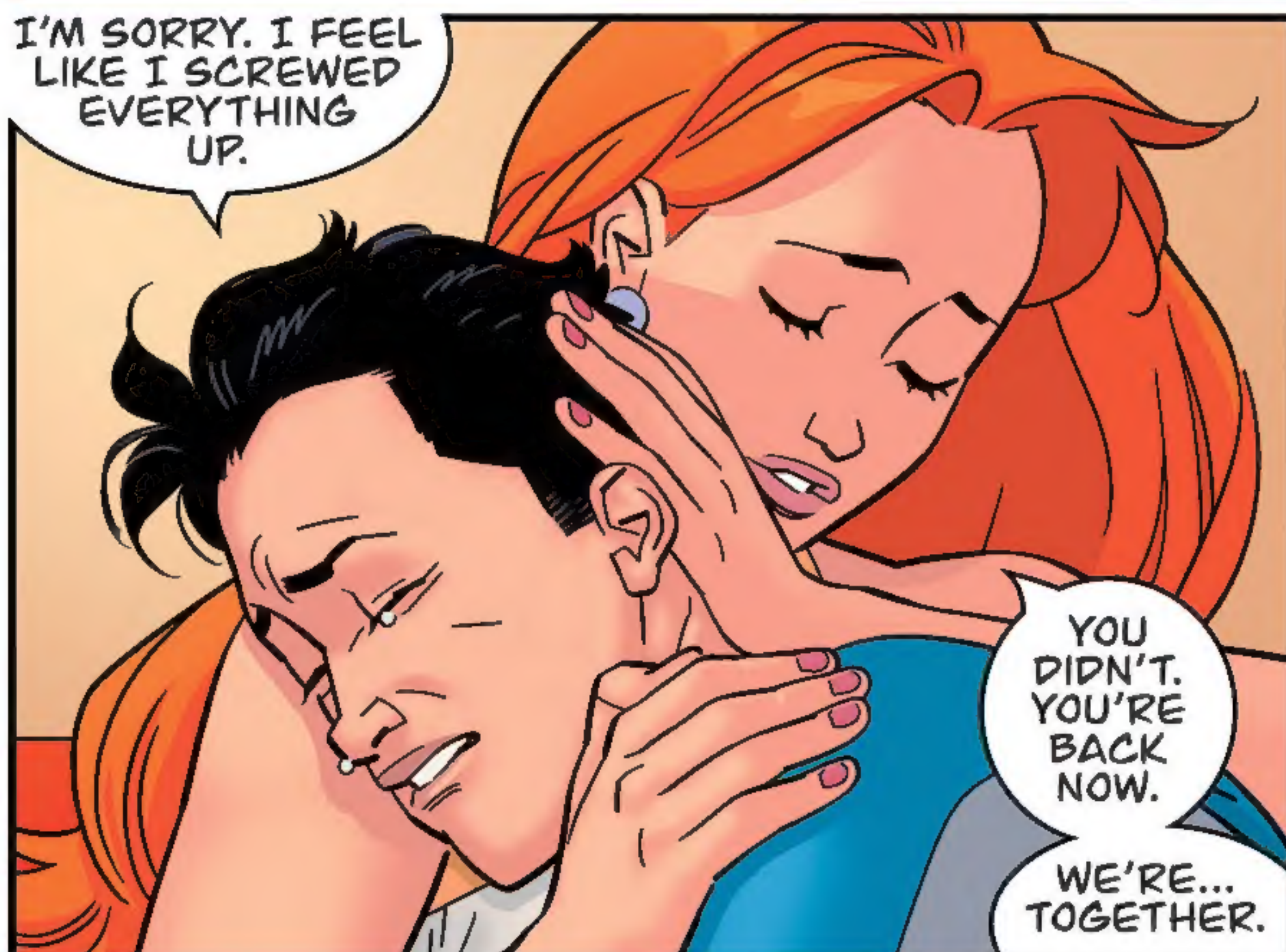
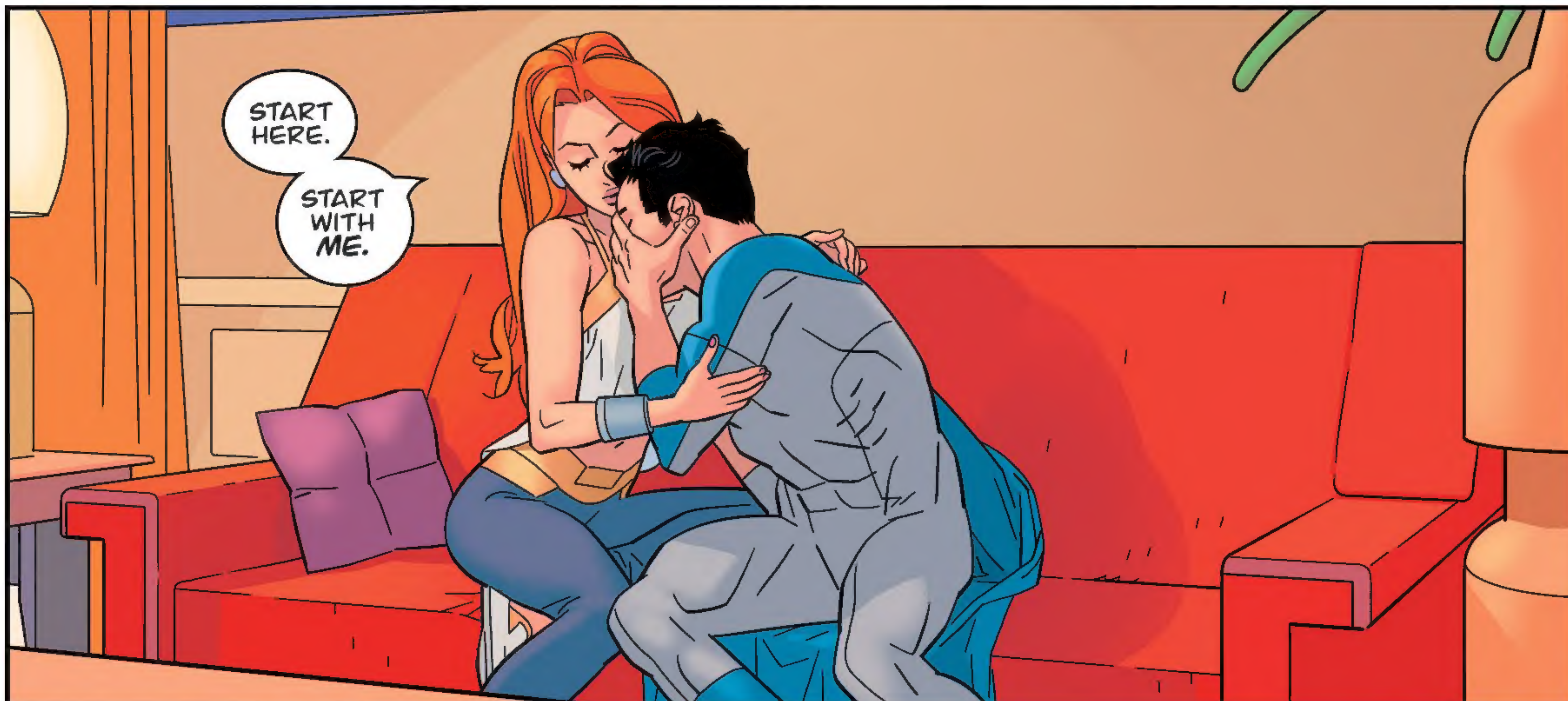


WHAT?

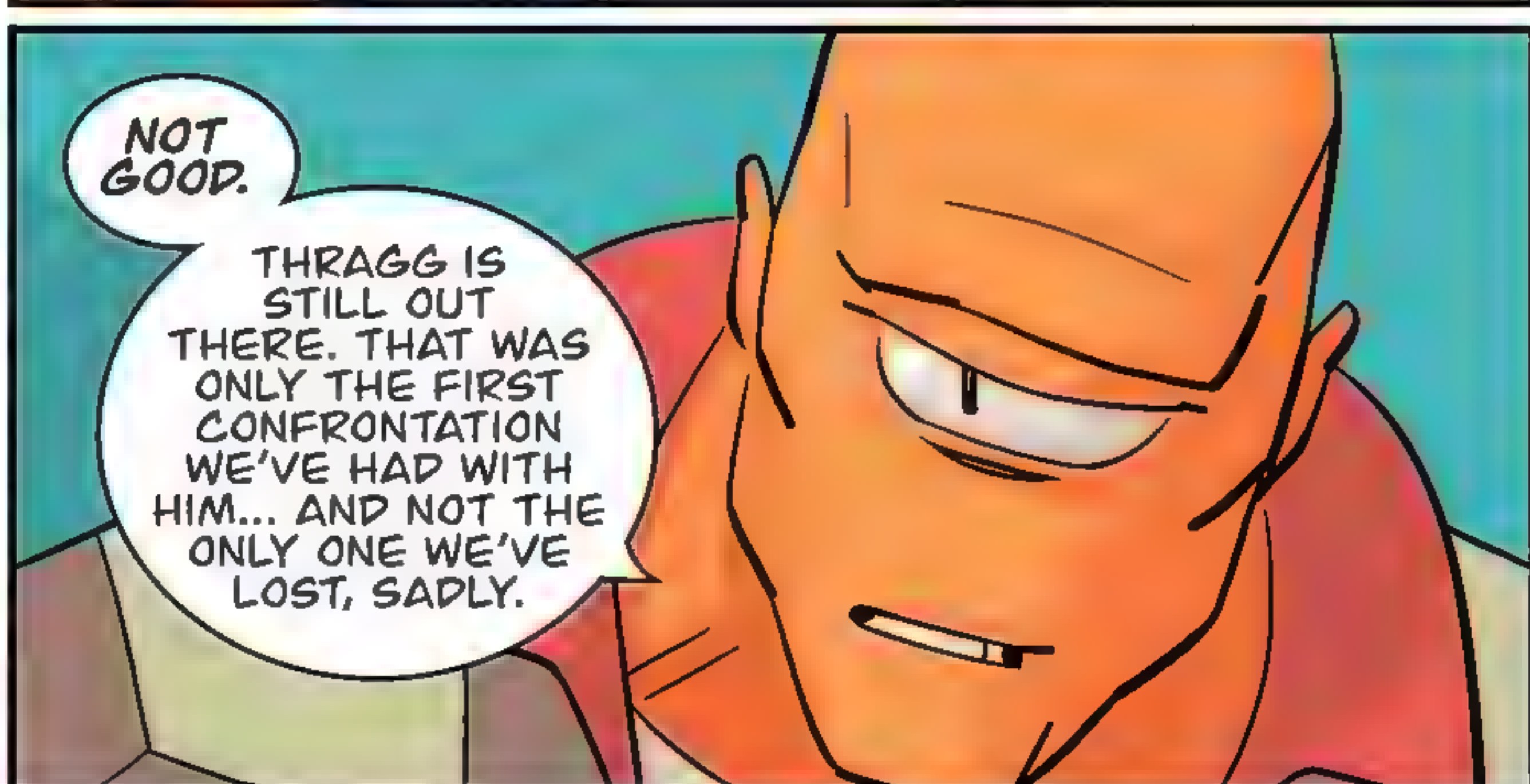
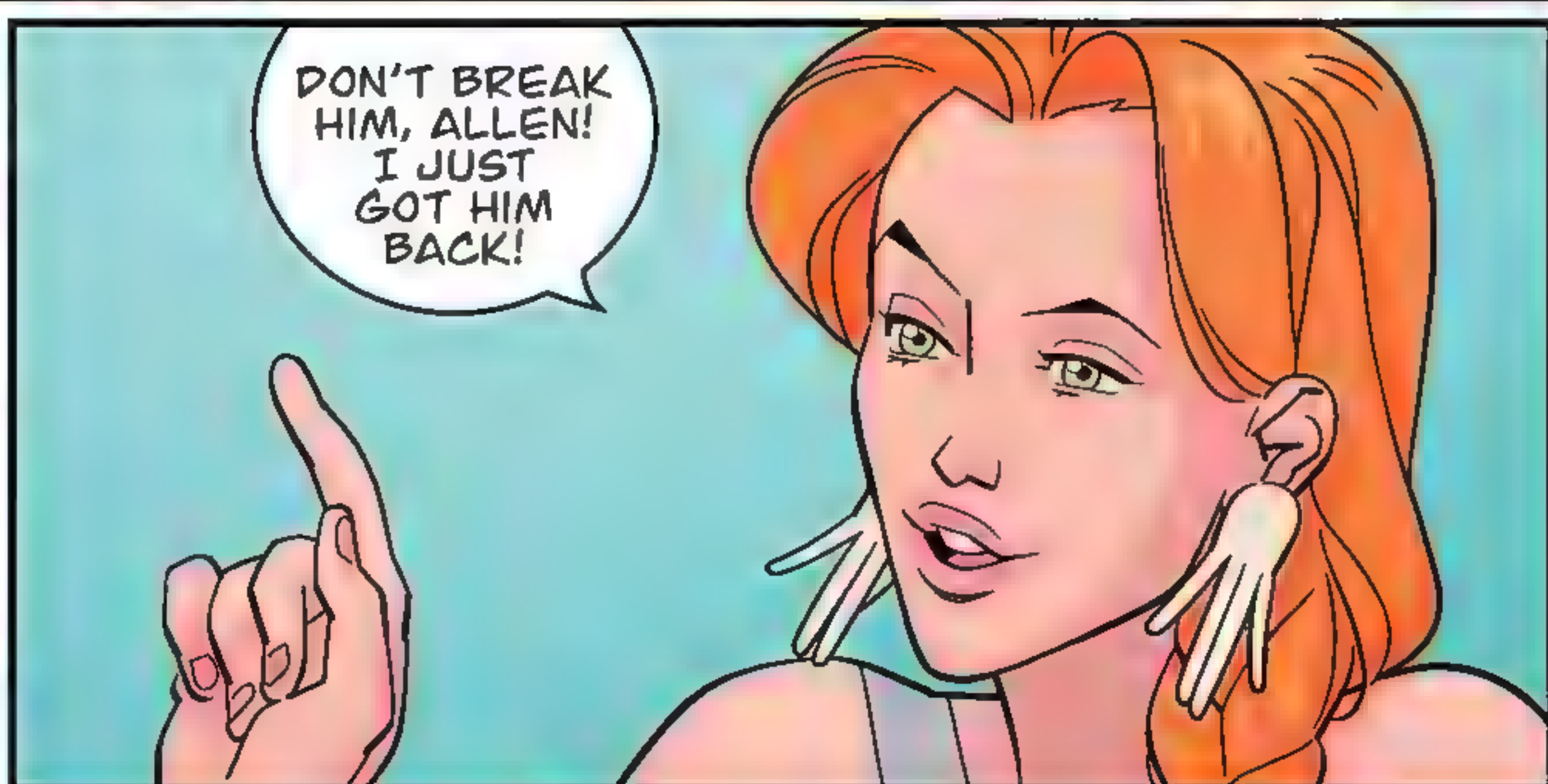
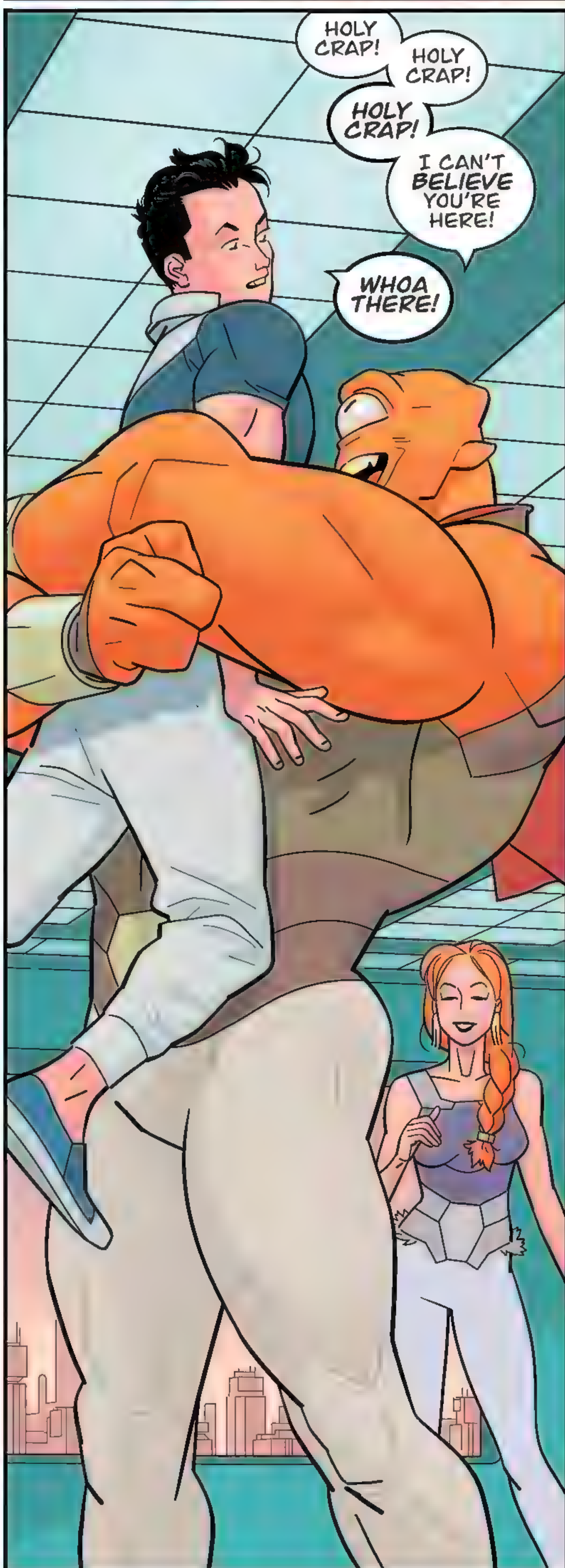
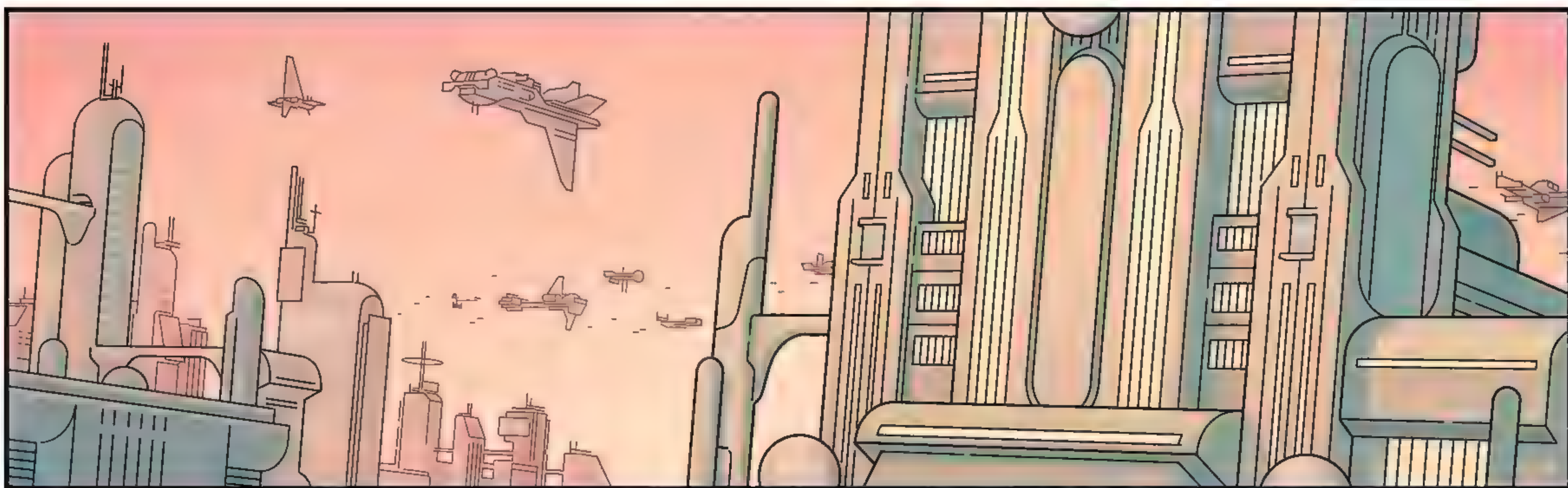


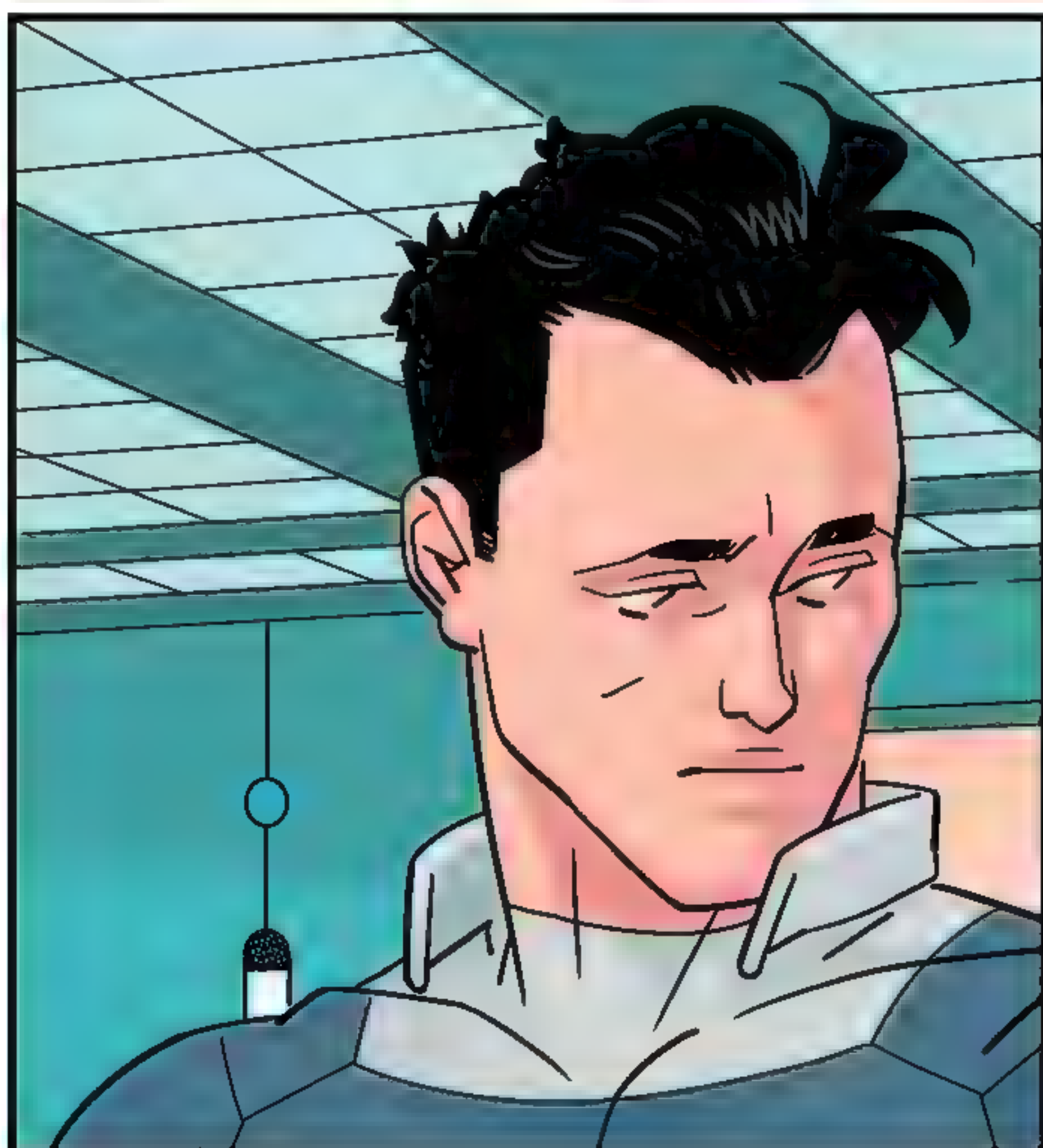
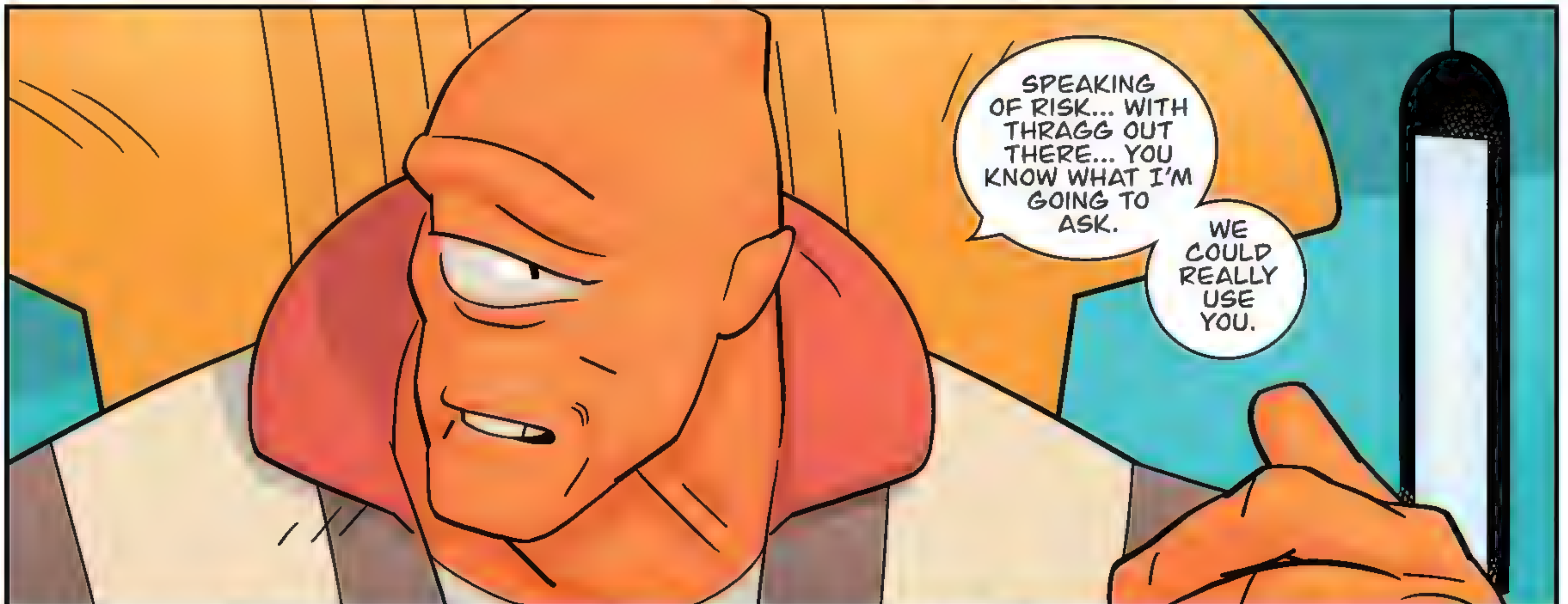
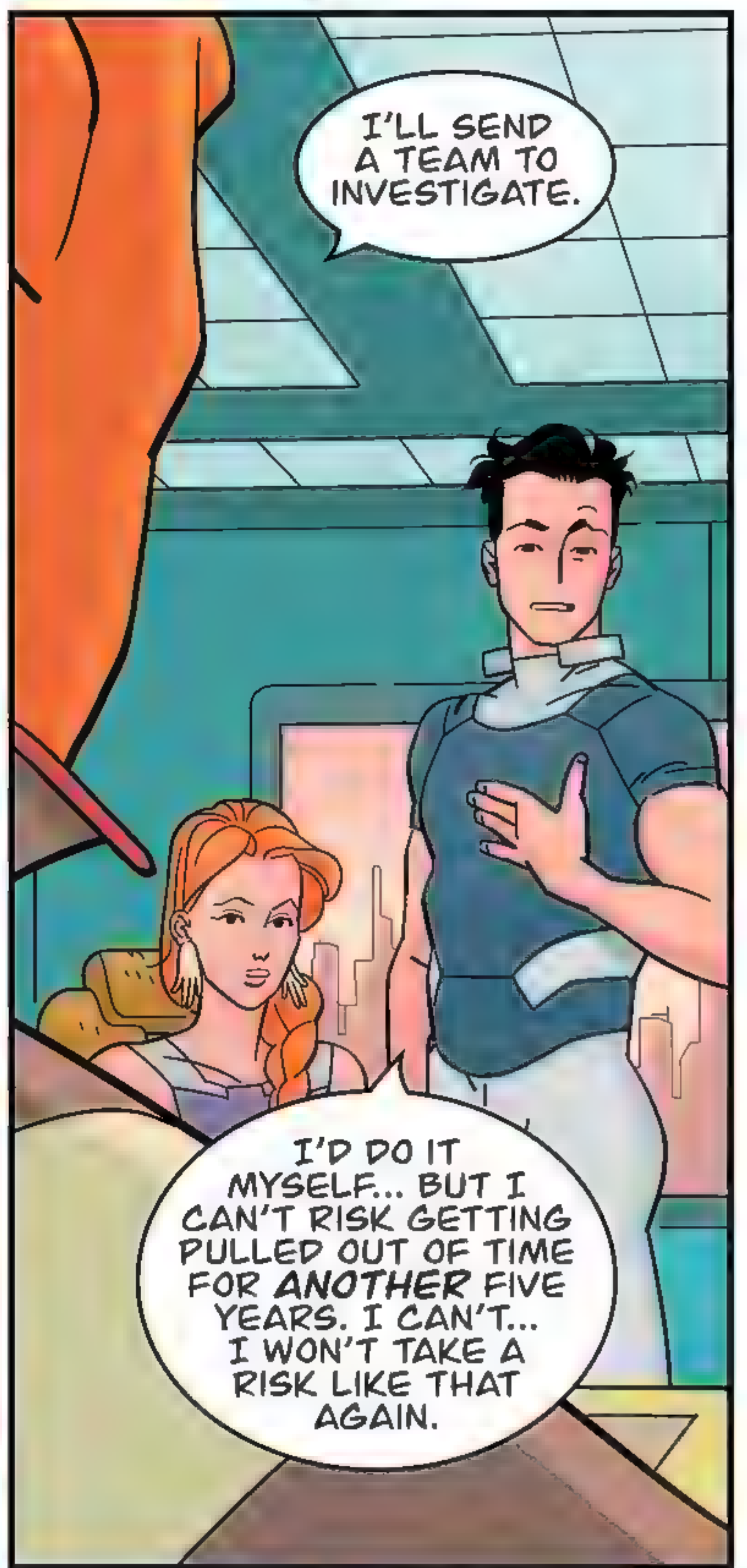
THEY GAVE ME THE CHANCE TO SAVE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. THE ONES WHO DIED WHEN MY DAD AND I FOUGHT... WHO DINOSAURUS KILLED IN LAS VEGAS... WHO ROBOT KILLED... EVERYONE.

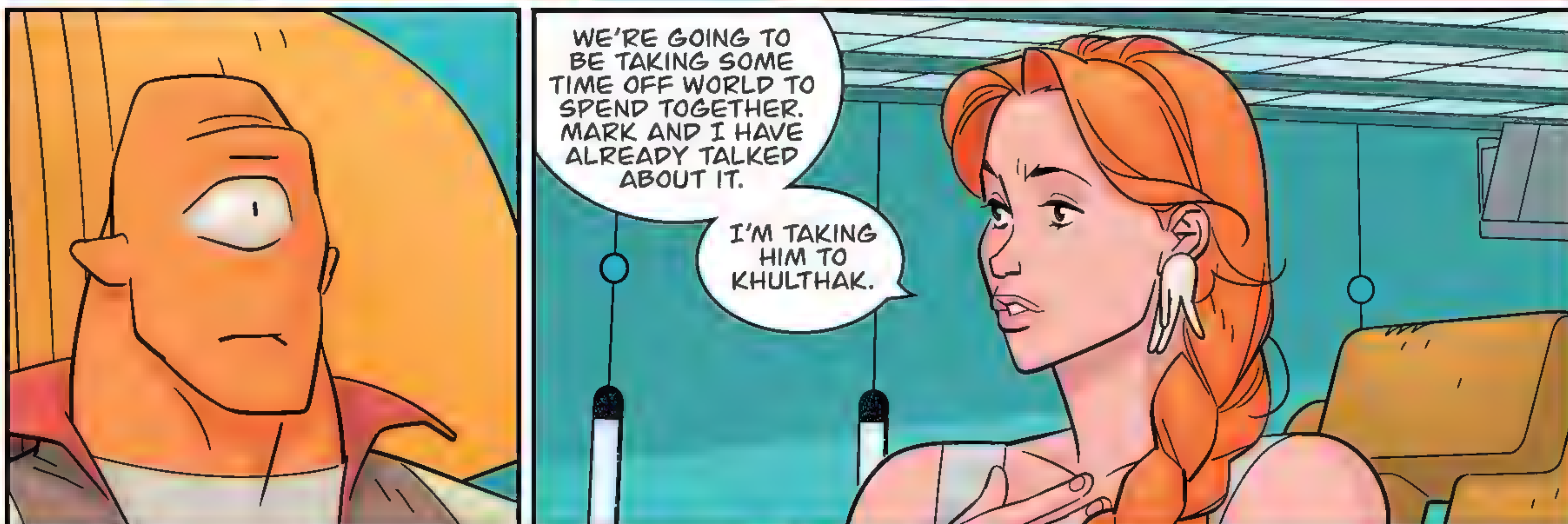
BUT INSTEAD, I CHOSE TO COME BACK.

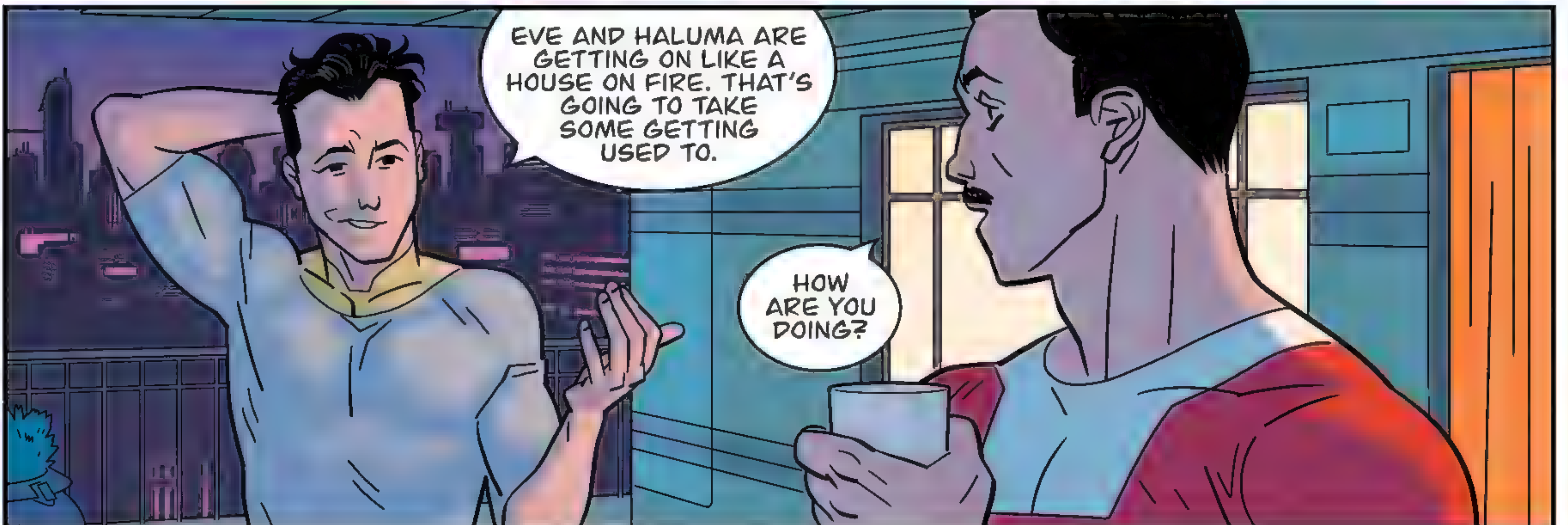
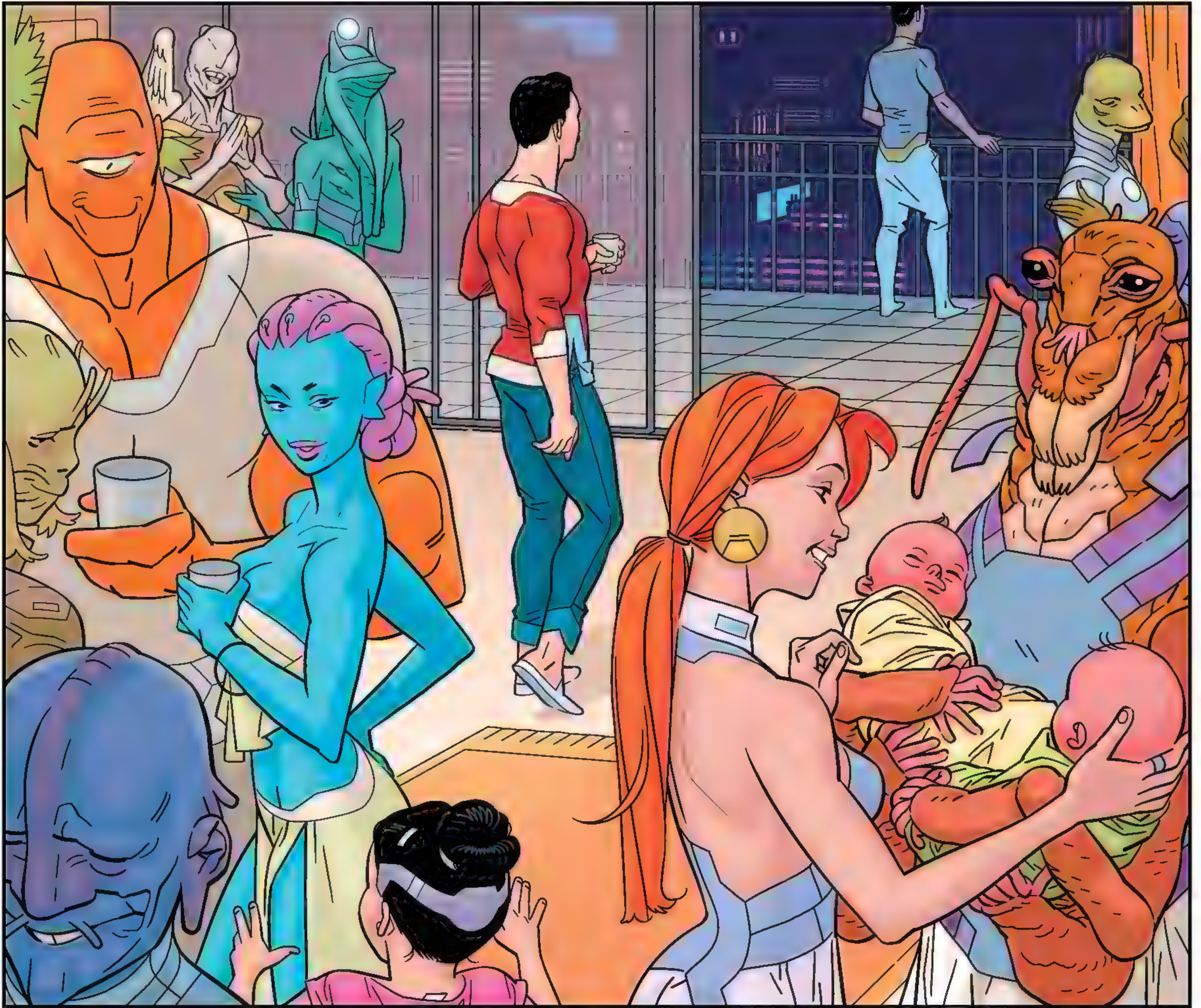


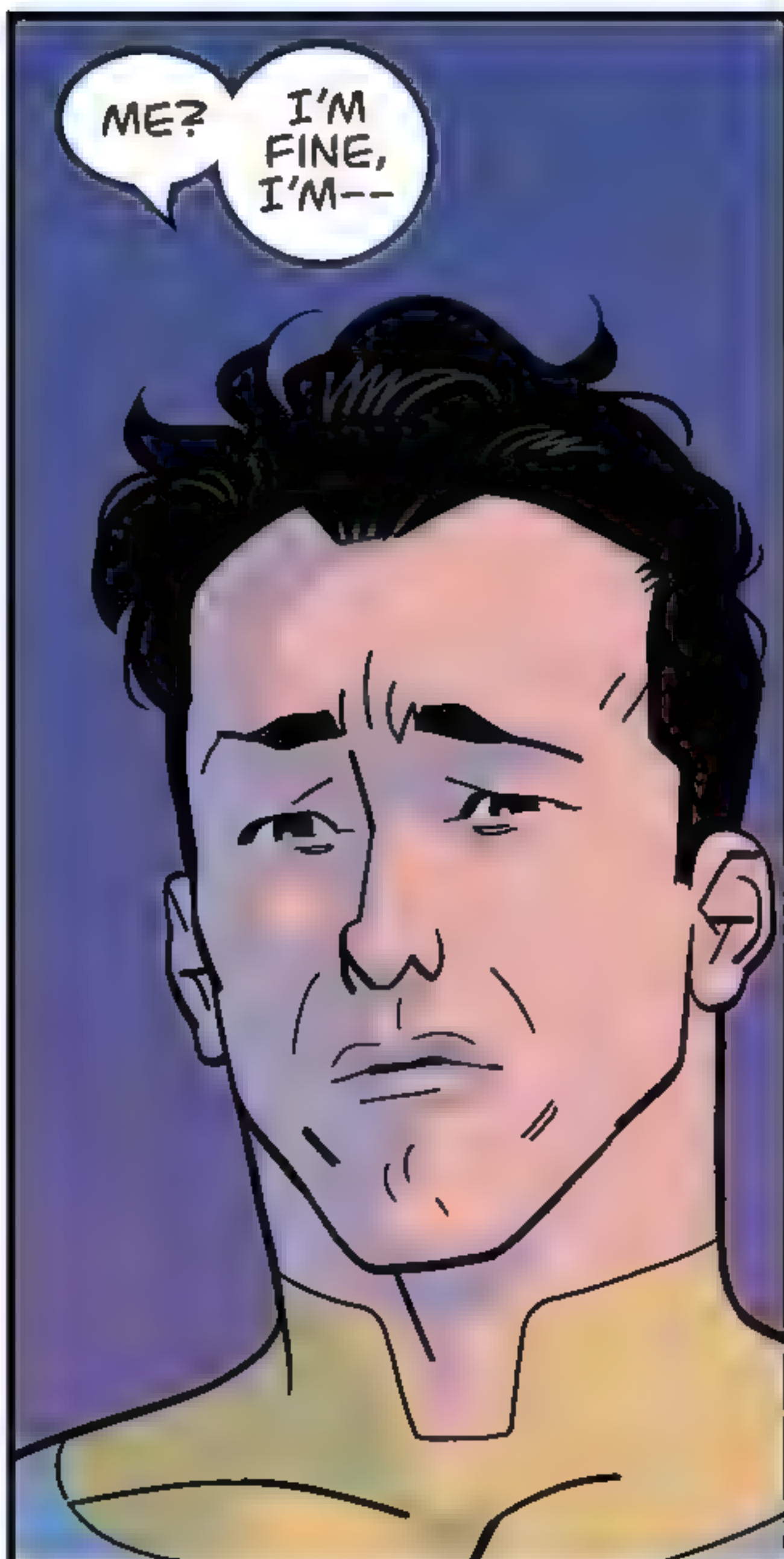












ME? I'M FINE, I'M---



--FINE.



...



IT'S OKAY, MAN. I'M SORRY I--

NO, JUST... I'M SORRY. I... IT'S JUST HARD FOR ME TO... EVERYTHING I DO, EVERY MOMENT OF EVERY DAY... I'M REMINDED OF THIS HORRIBLE THING THAT HAPPENED TO ME.

IT'S ALWAYS THERE. I LOOK AT EVE, IT'S THERE. I LOOK AT TERRA, IT'S THERE. I LOOK AT YOU...

I'VE MISSED SO MUCH...



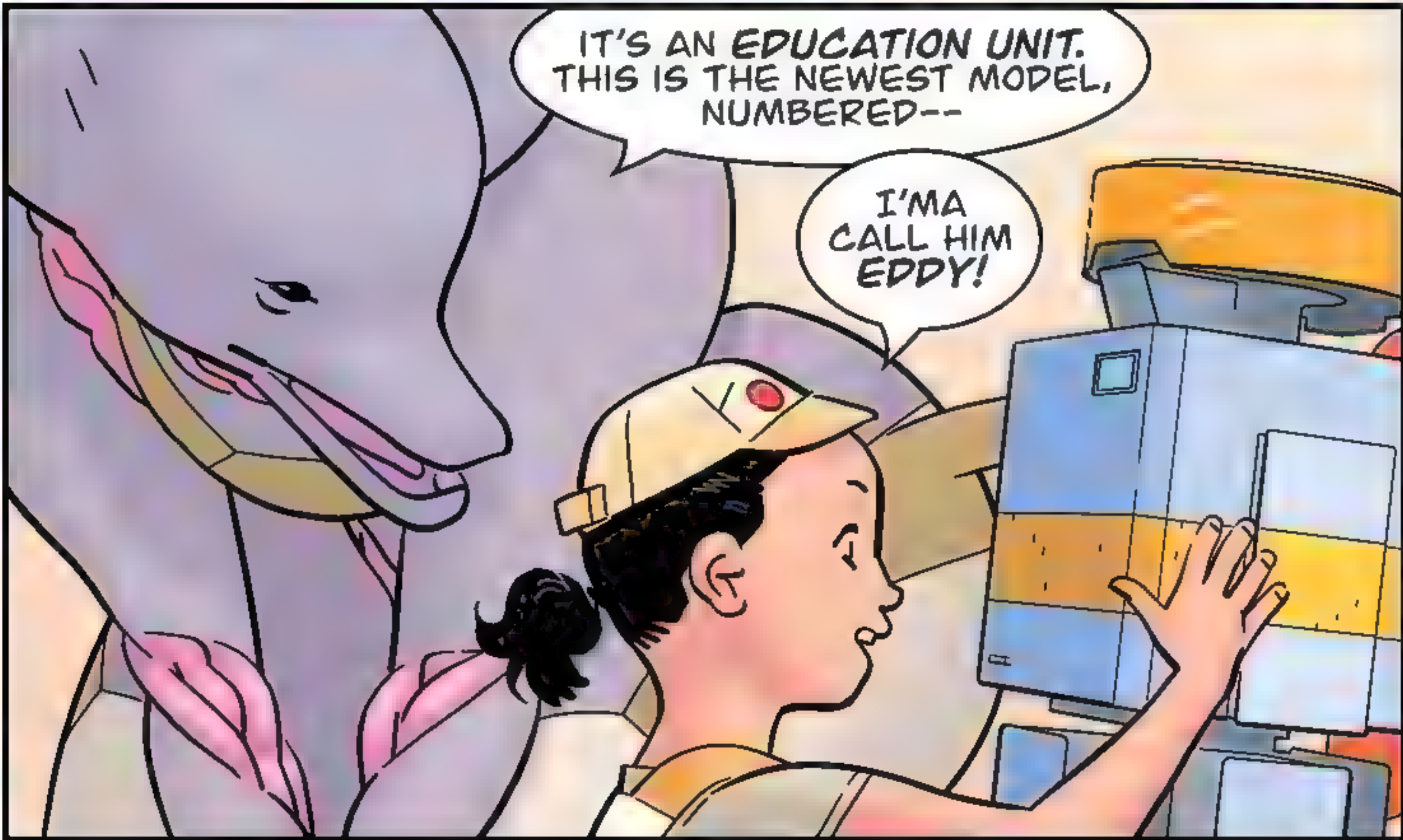
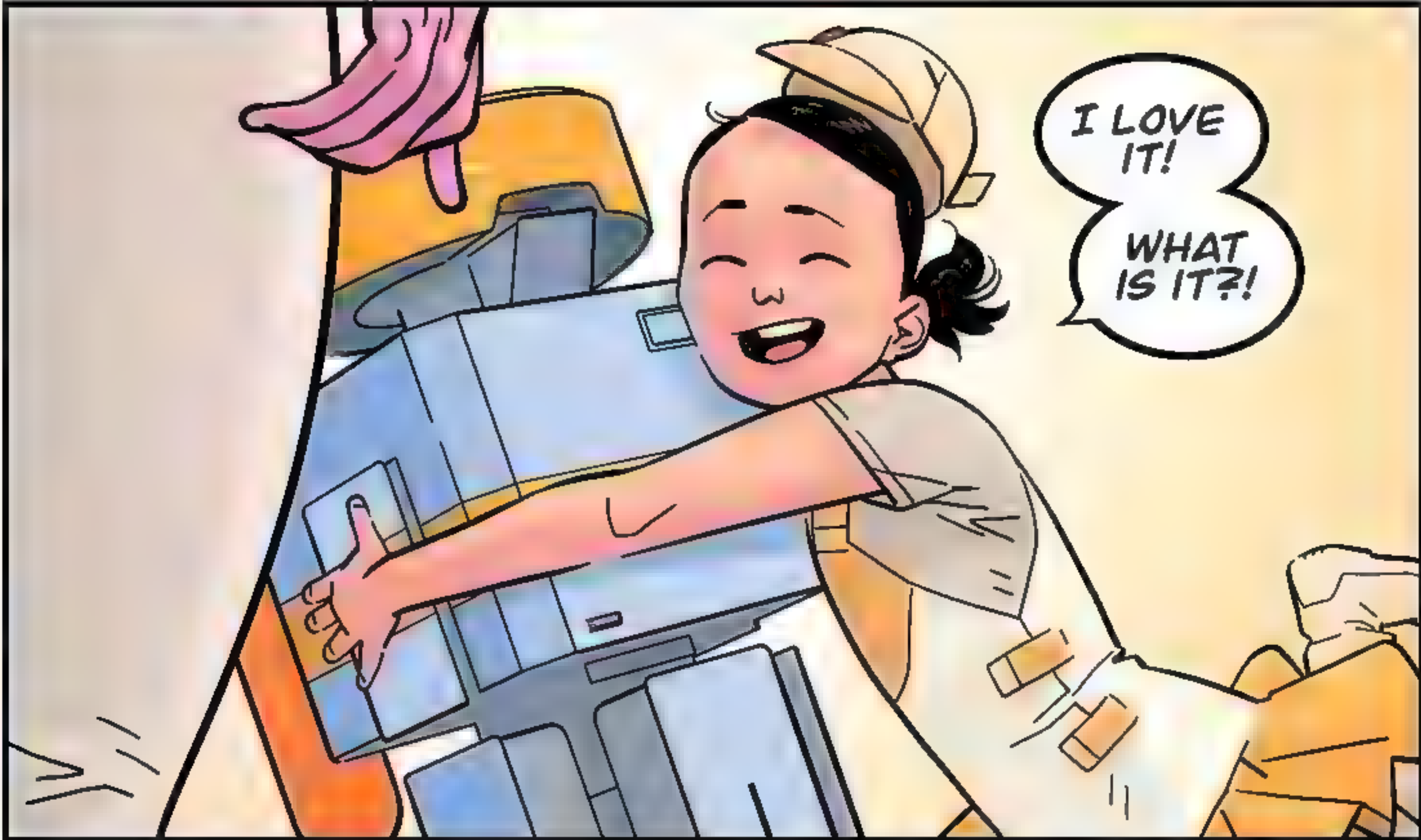
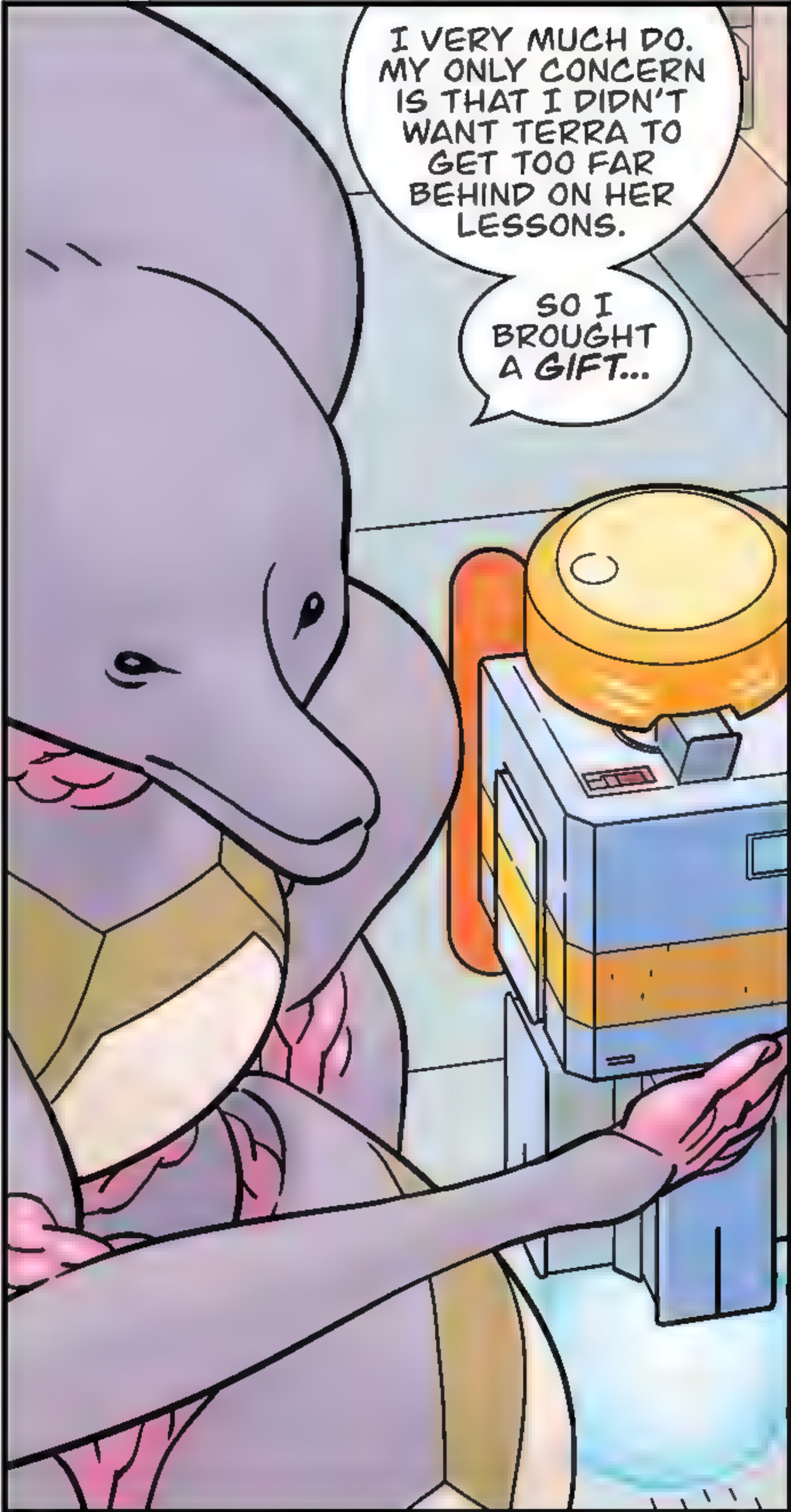
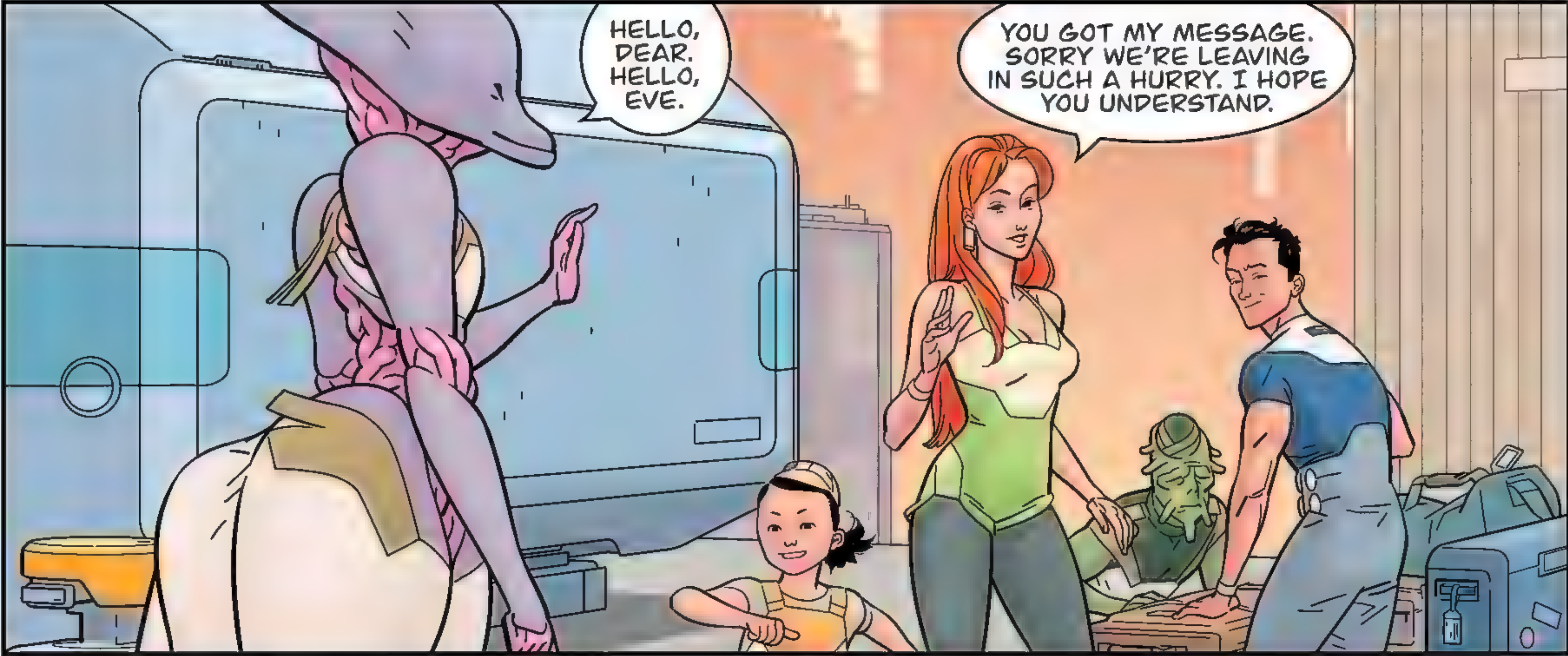
I'M OKAY... I'M OKAY...

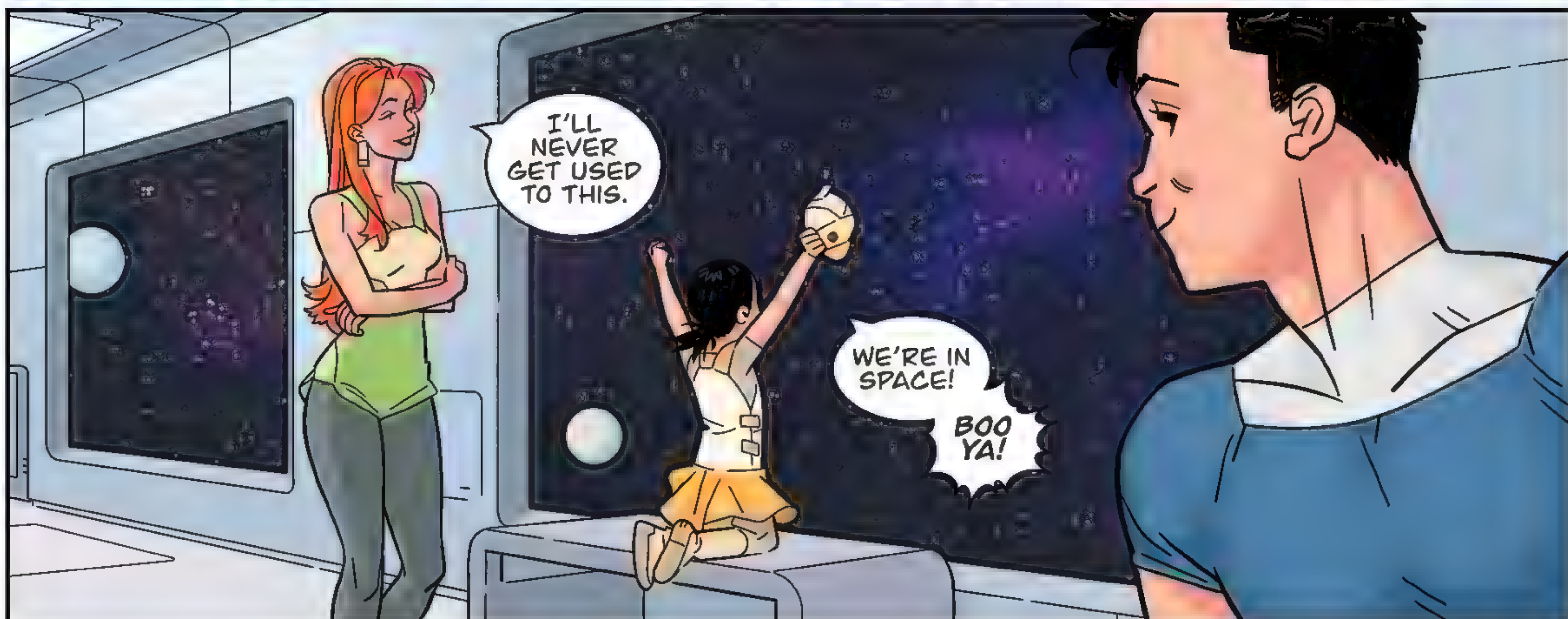
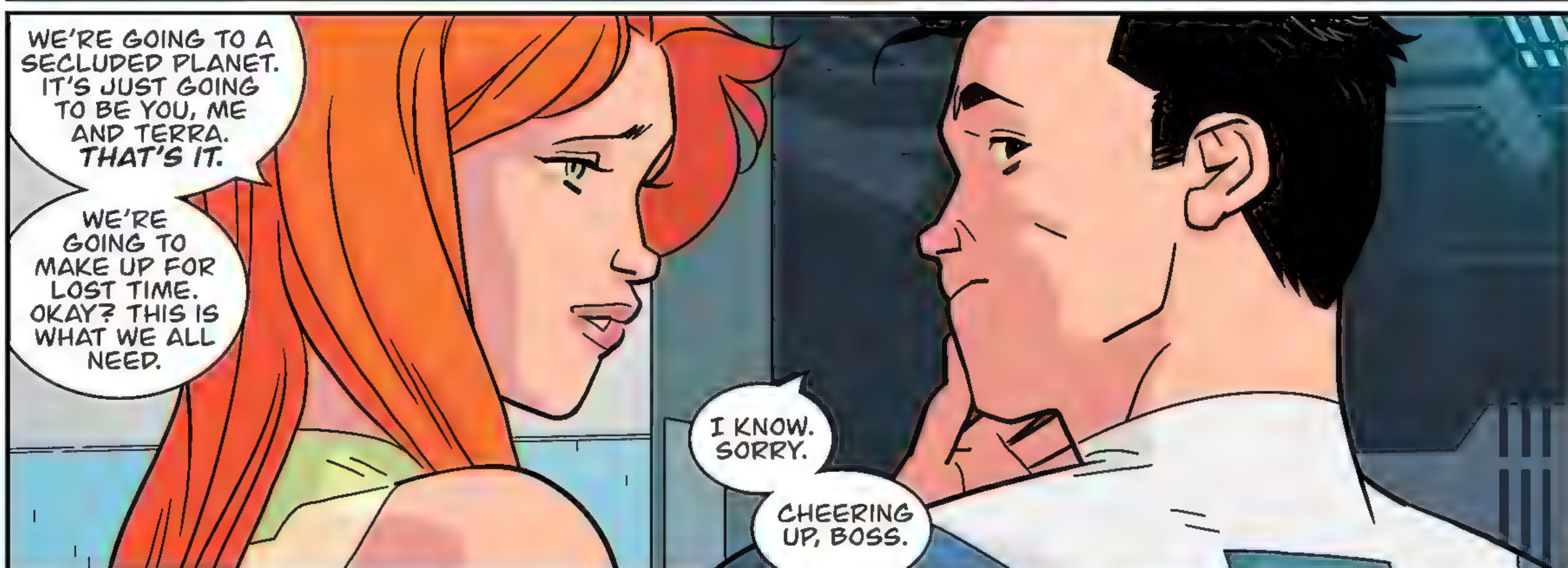
NO YOU'RE NOT... BUT THAT'S OKAY. YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT, YOU WERE GONE FOR FIVE YEARS, MARK. AND YOU CAME BACK...

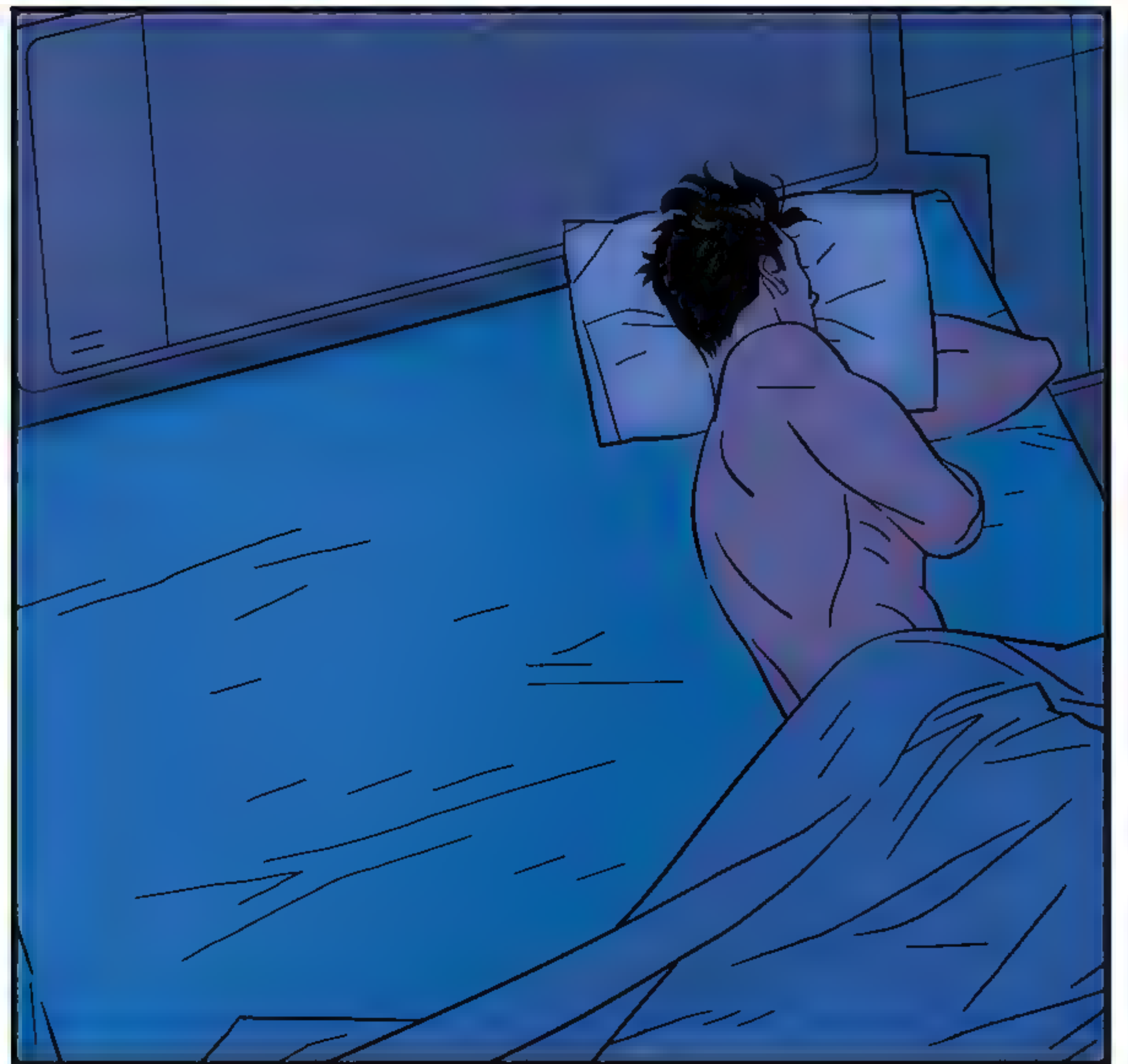
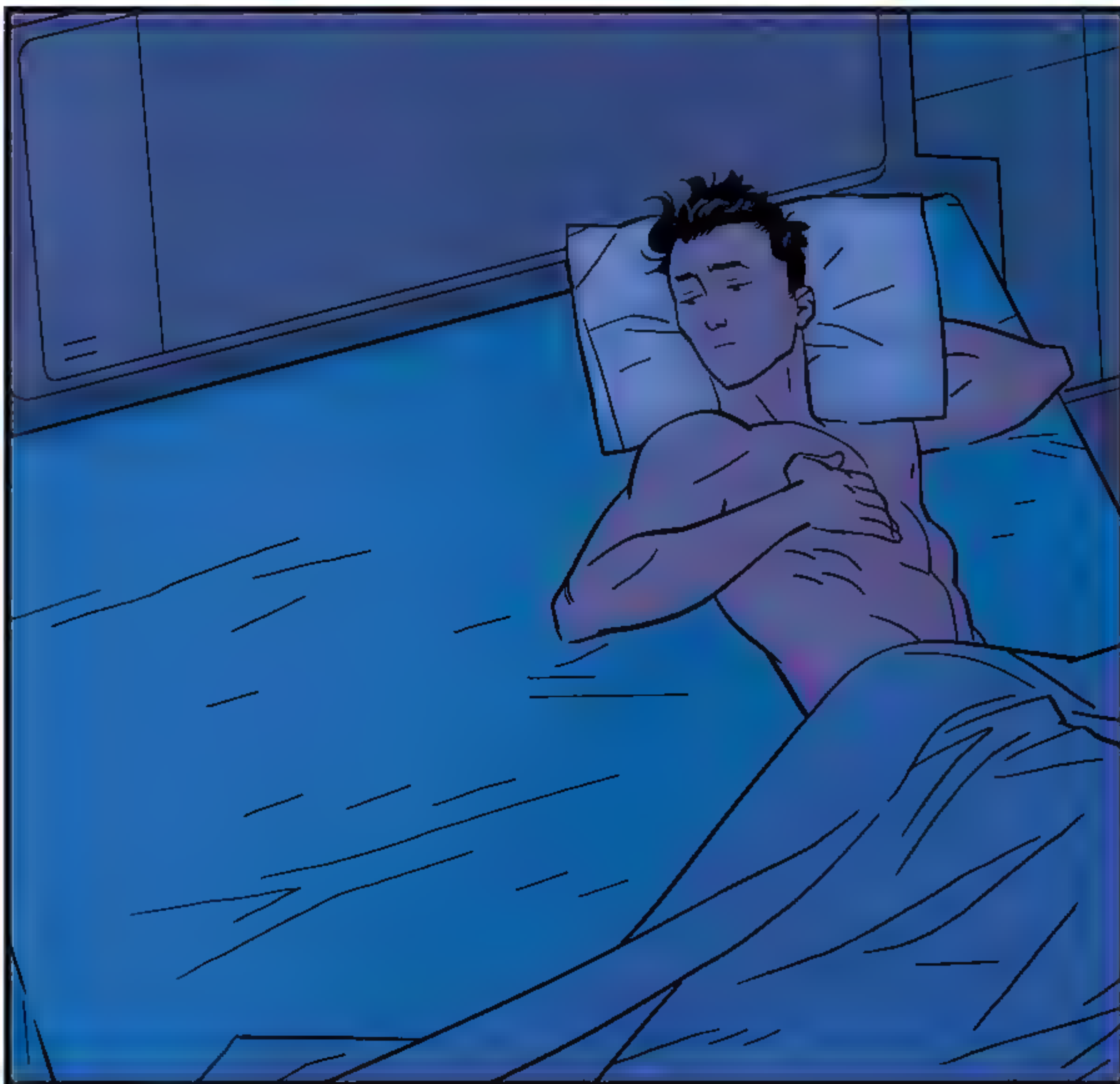
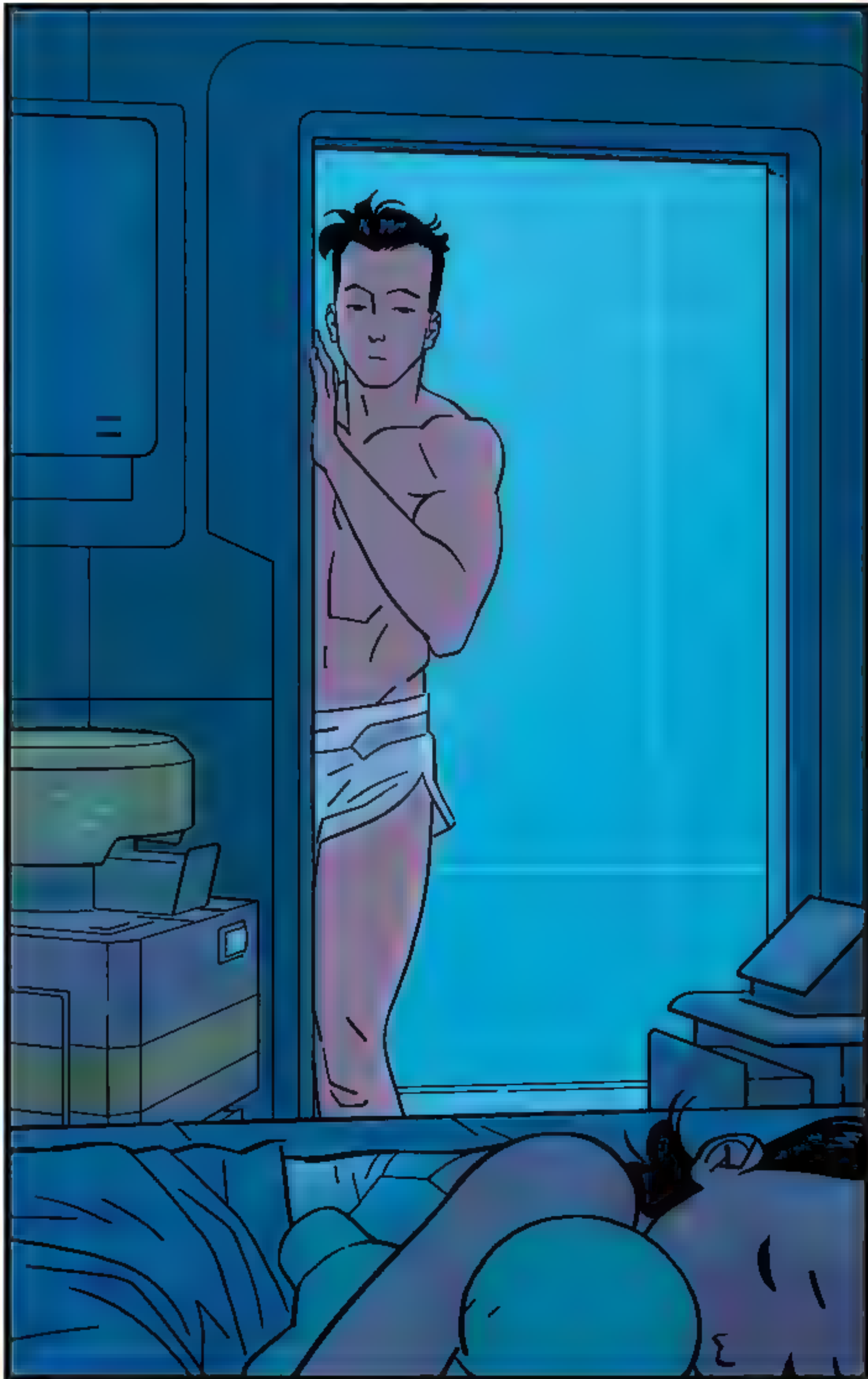
...AND NOW YOU'RE A GIANT PUSSY.

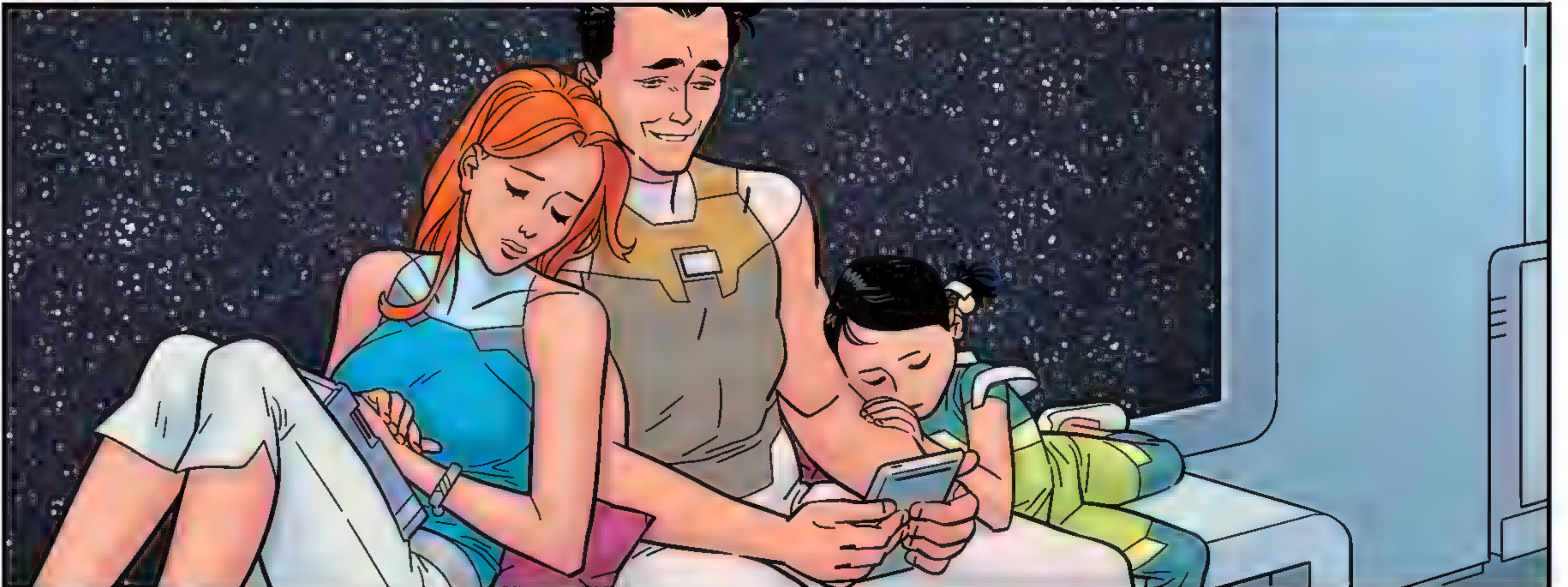
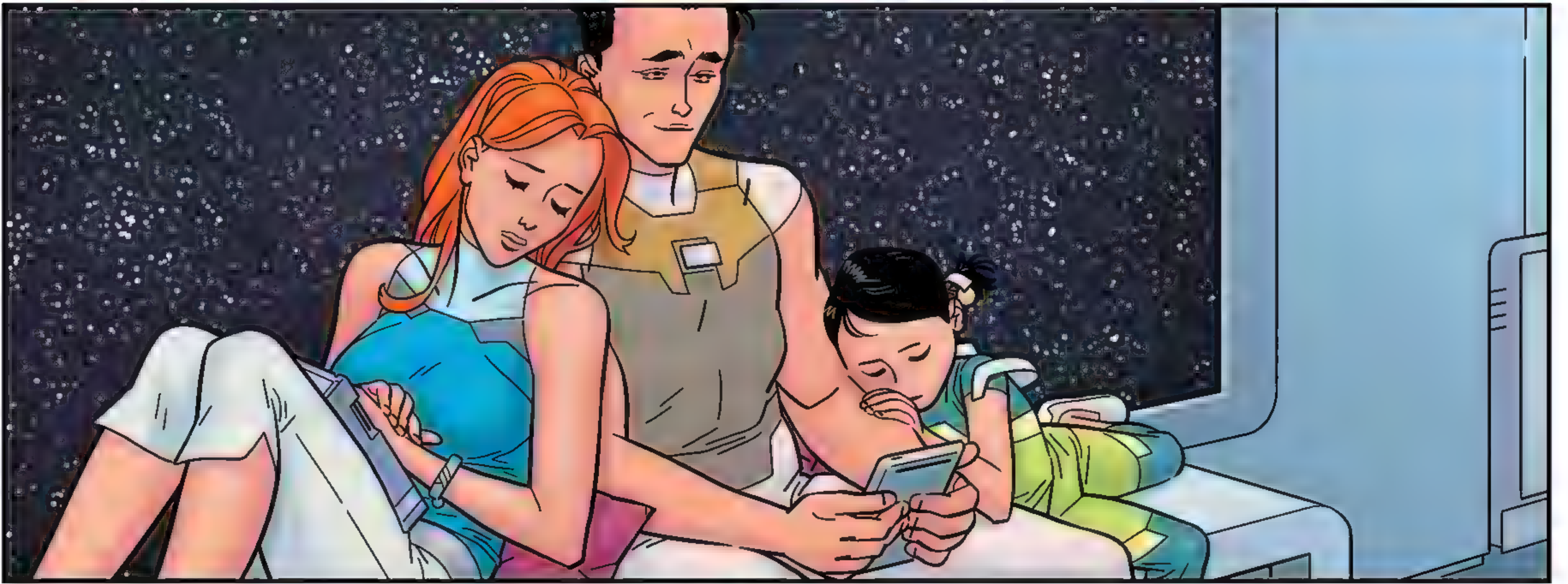
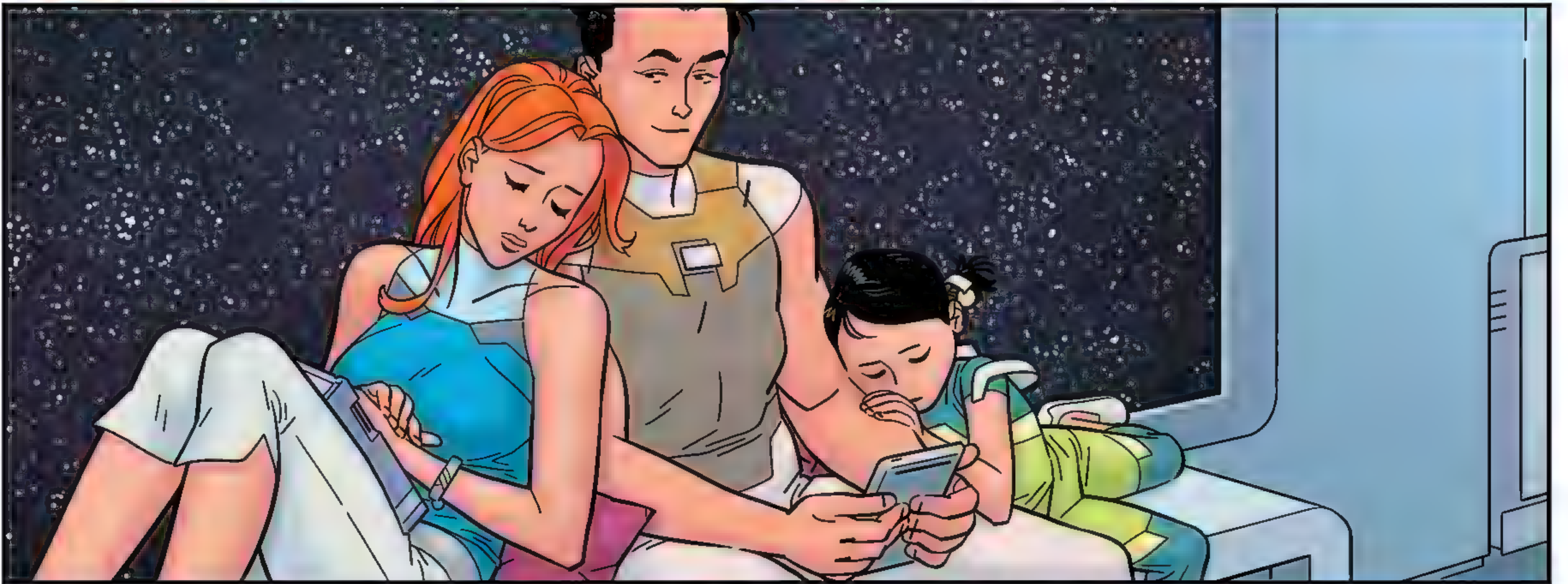
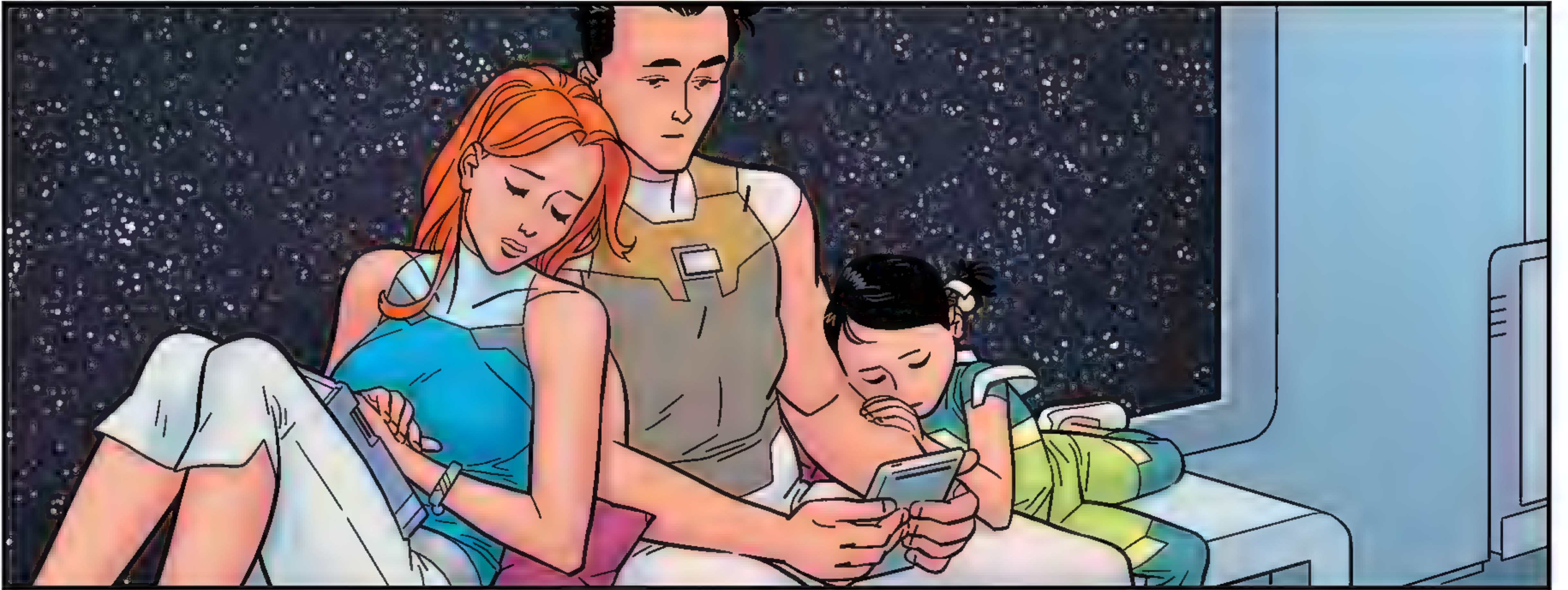


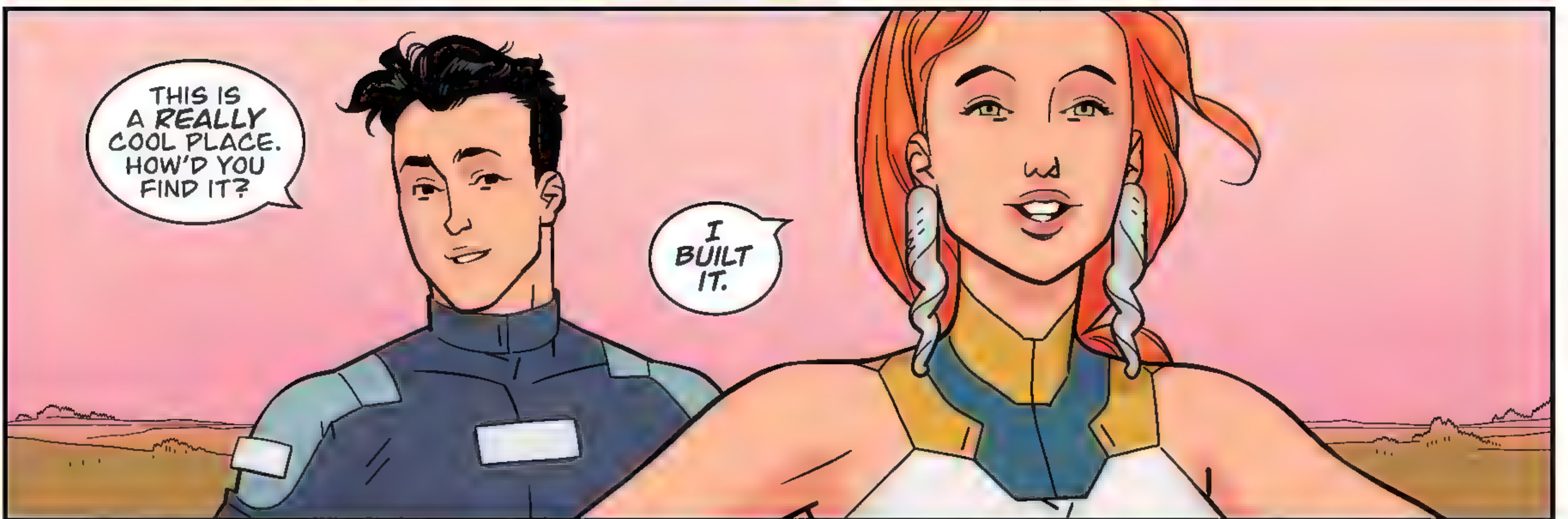
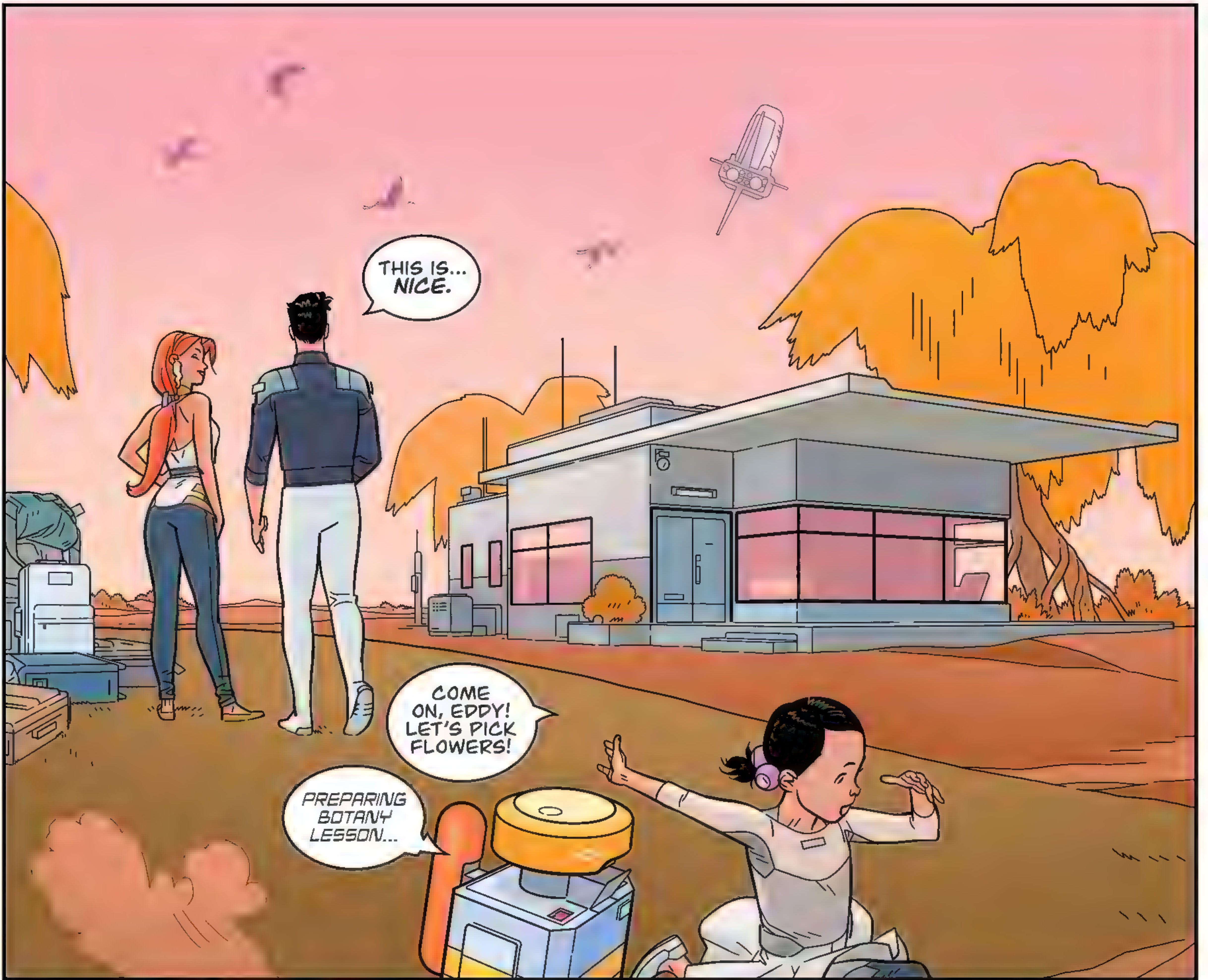
OKAY... THERE'S ONE THING I DIDN'T MISS.

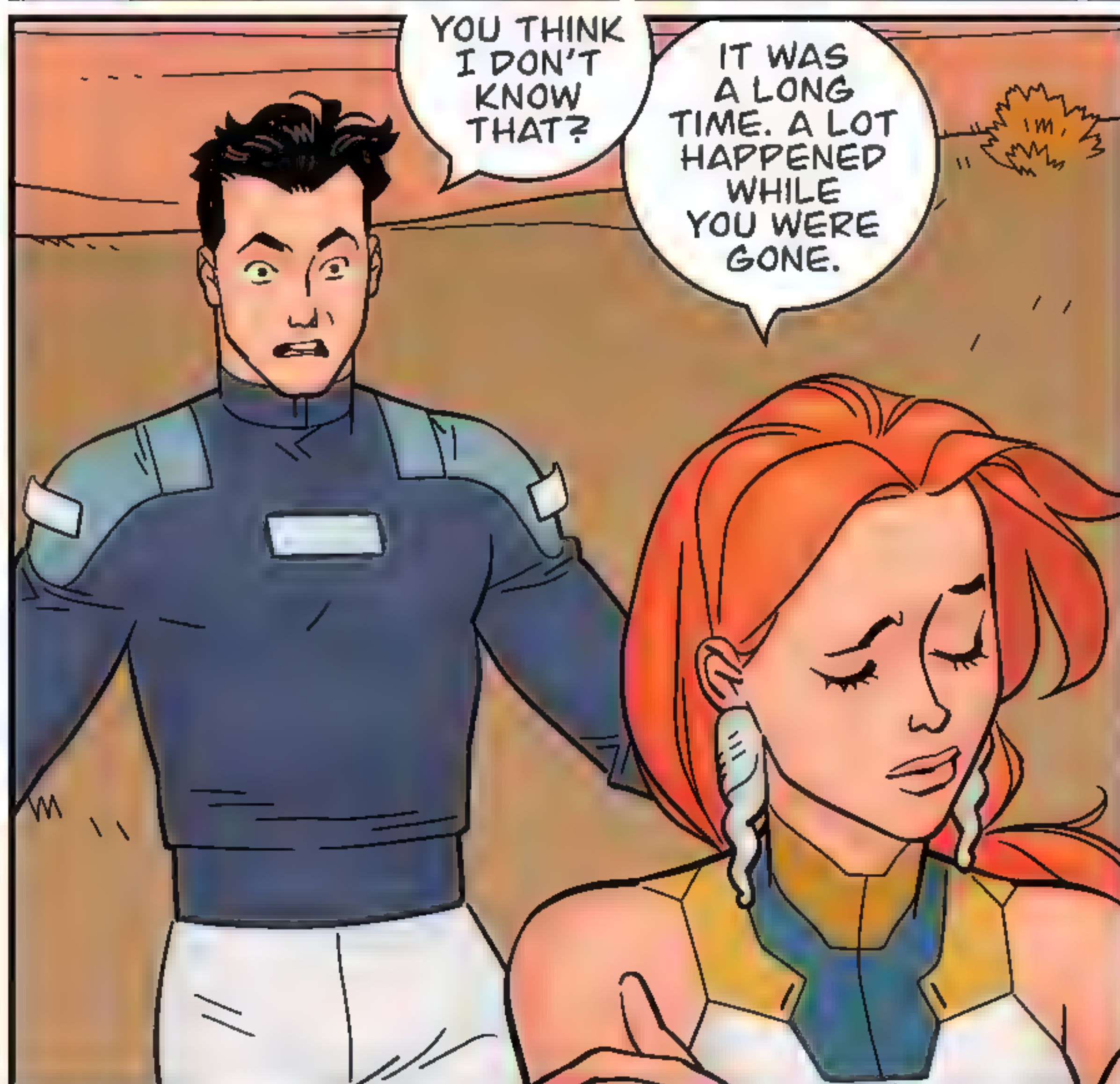
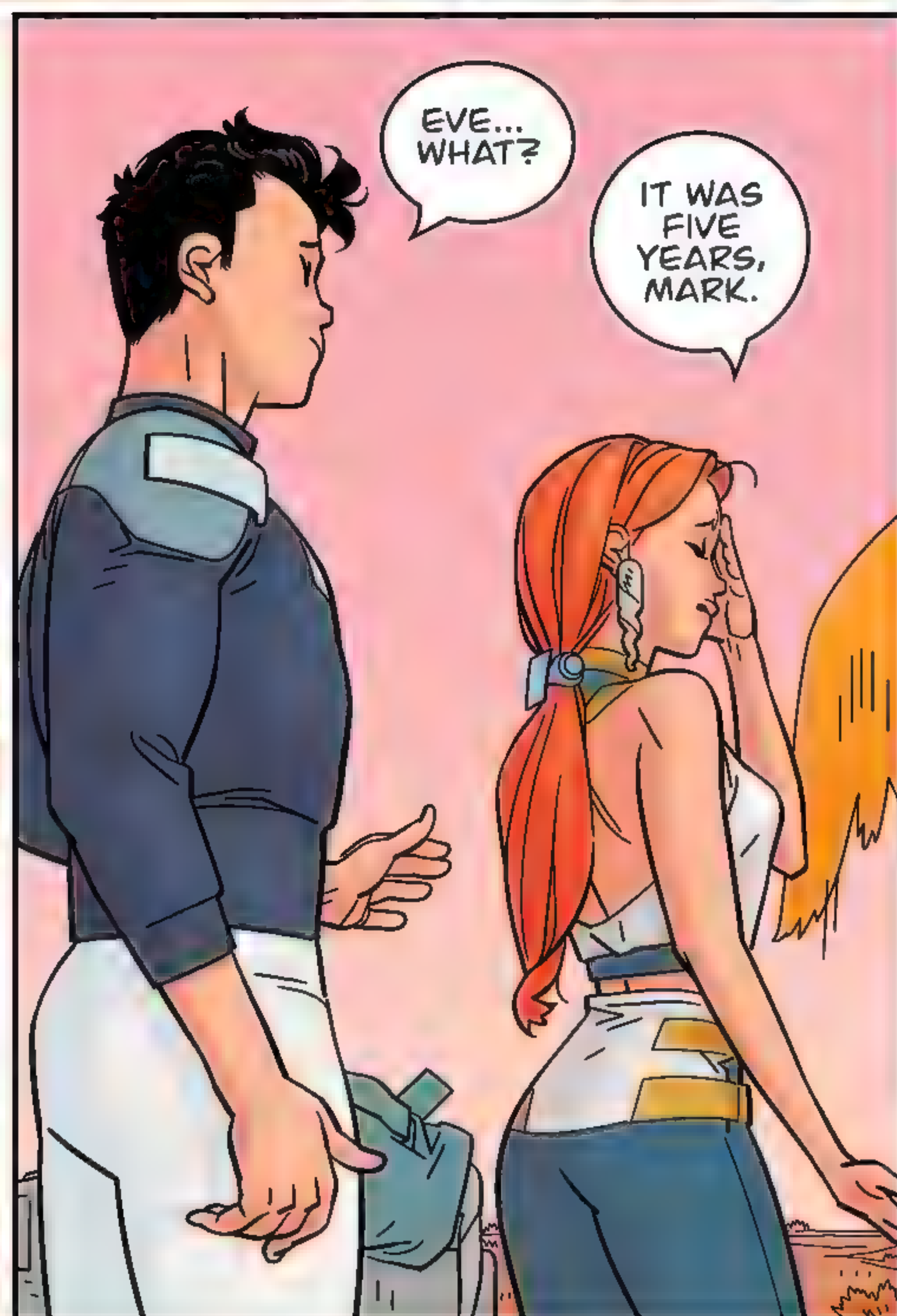
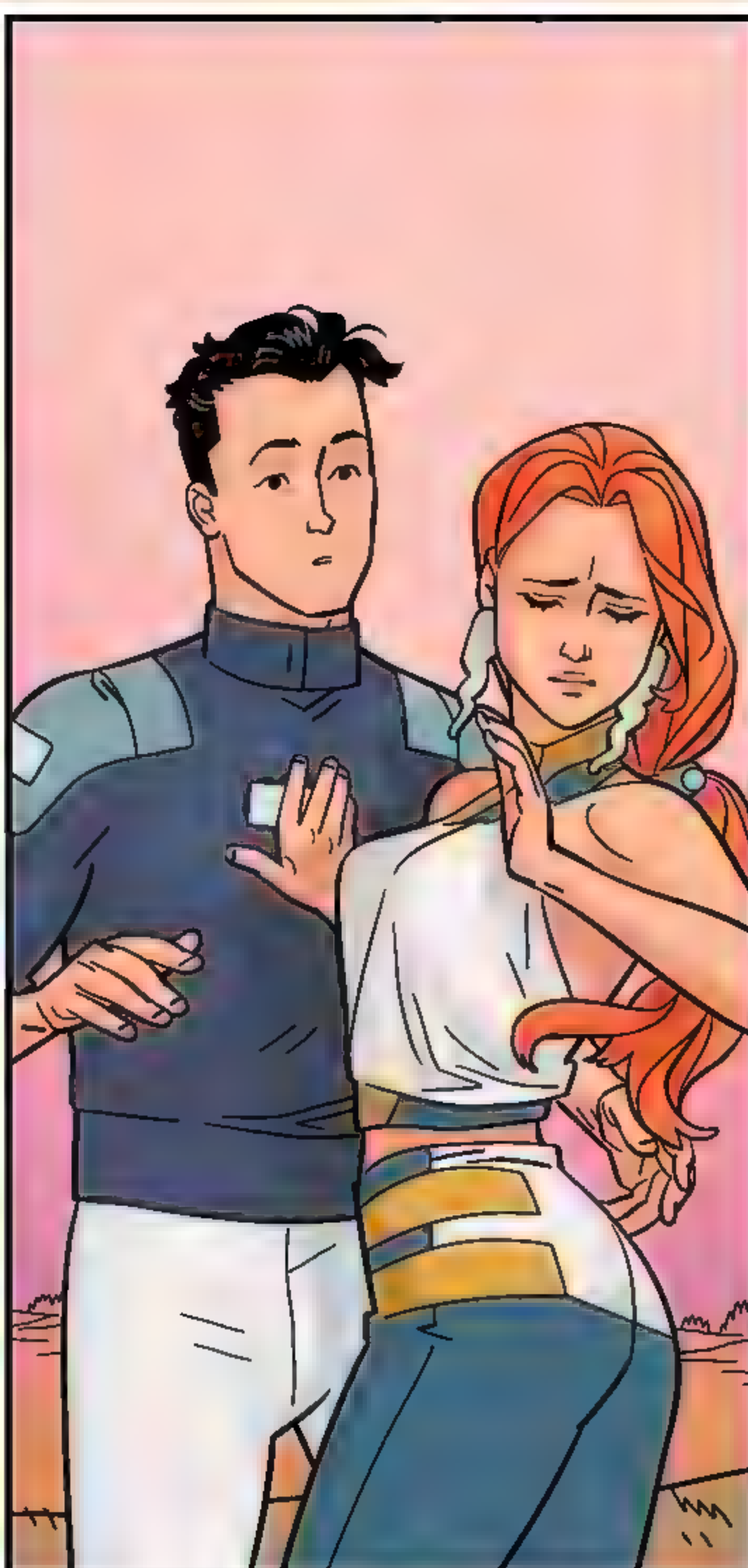
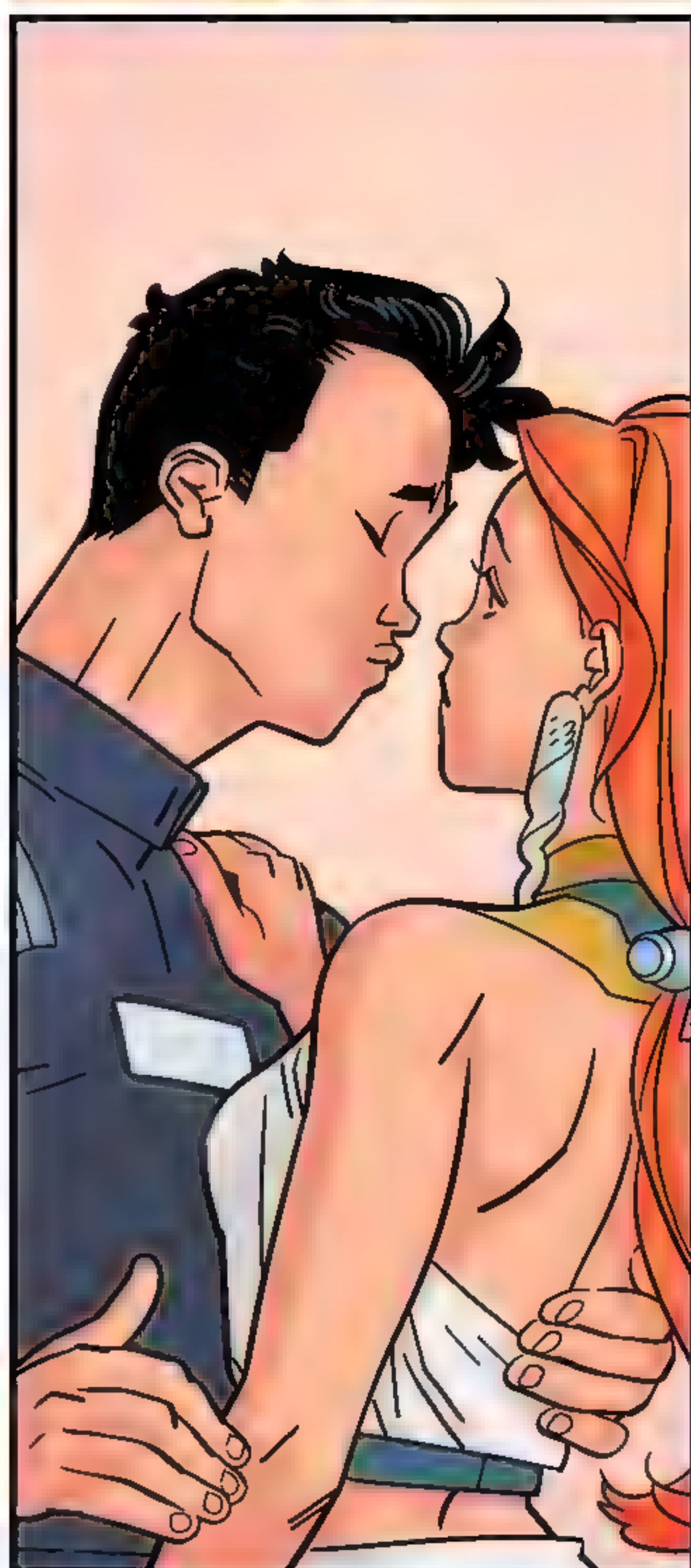
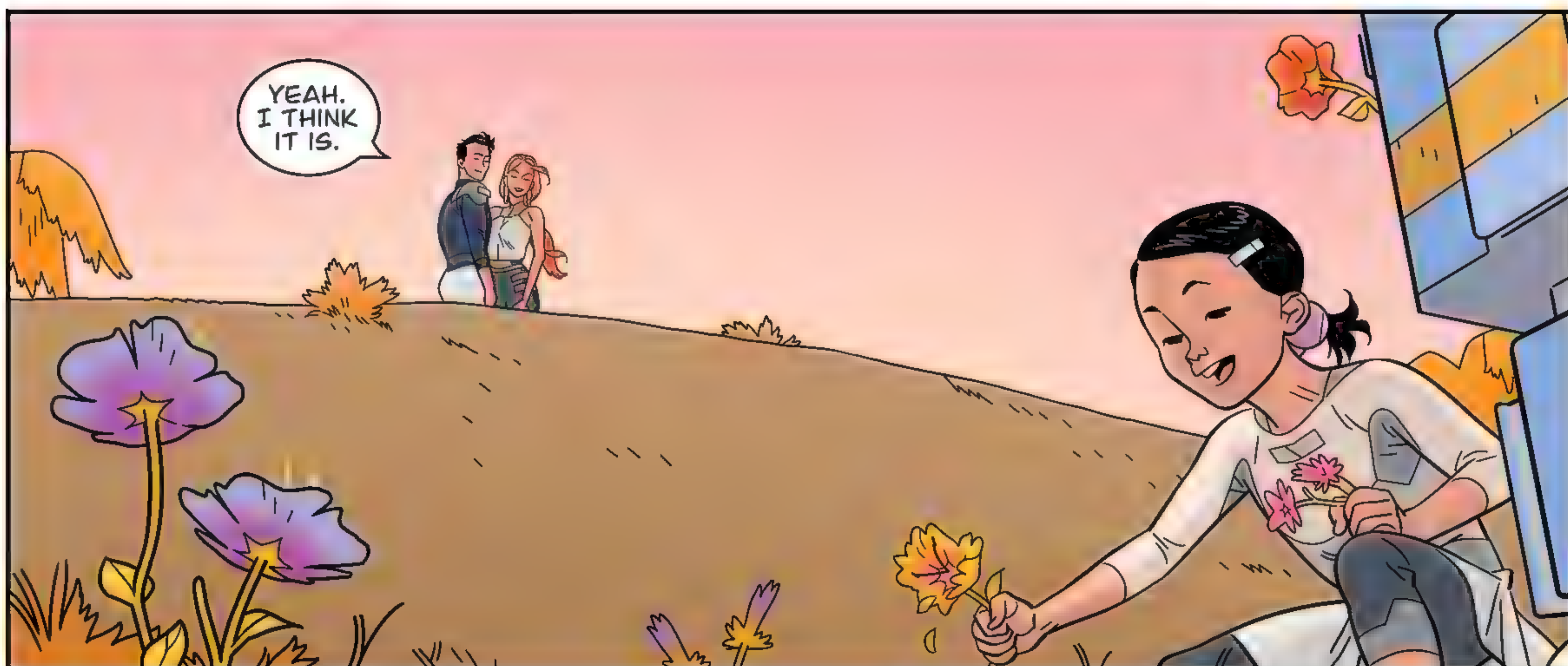


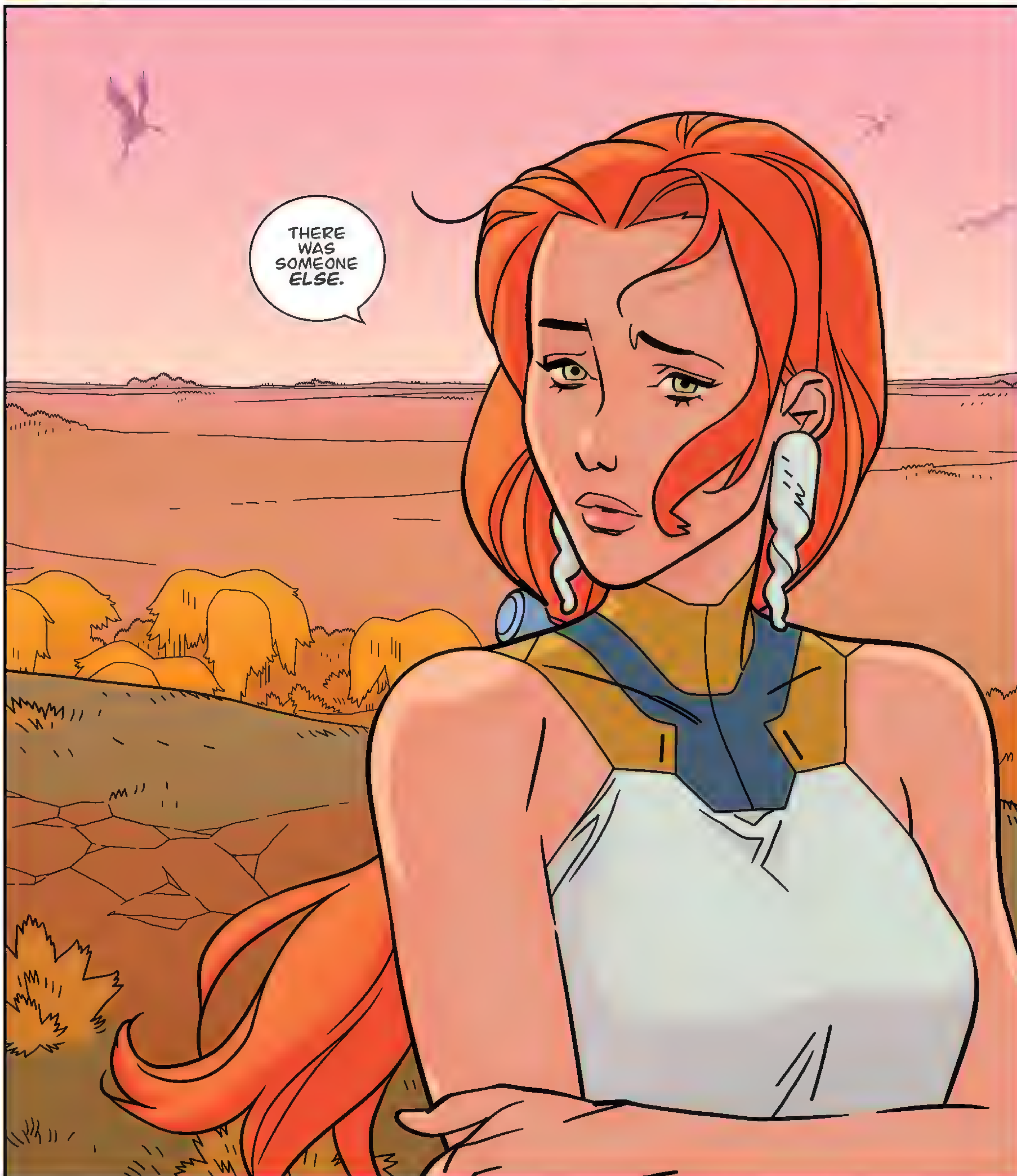


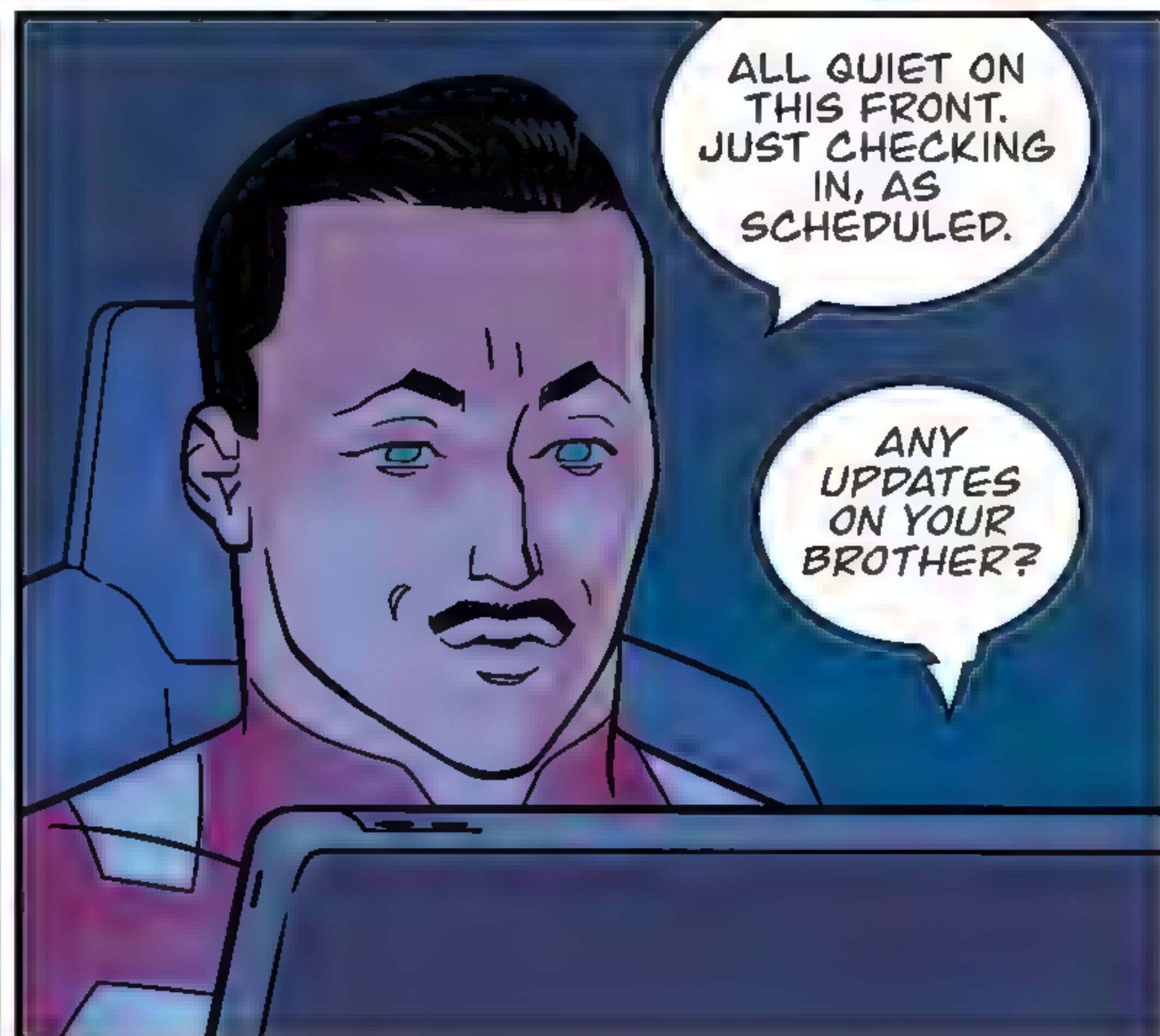
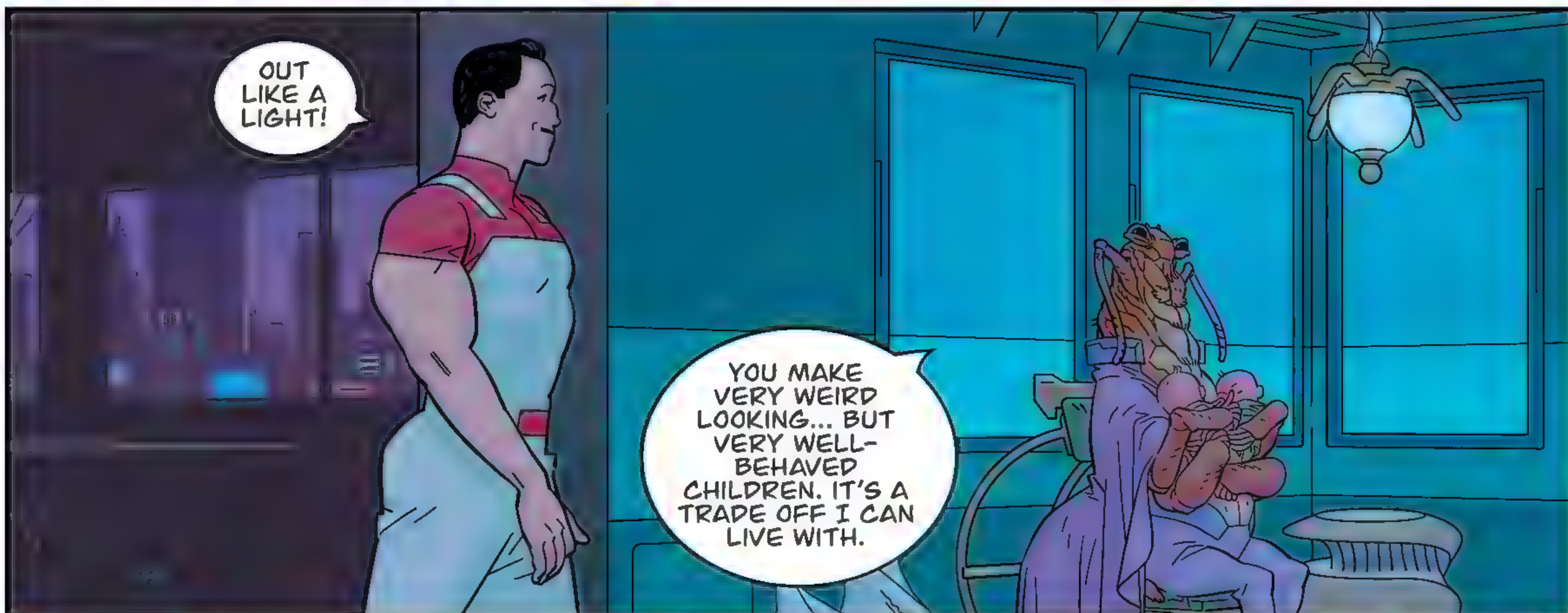
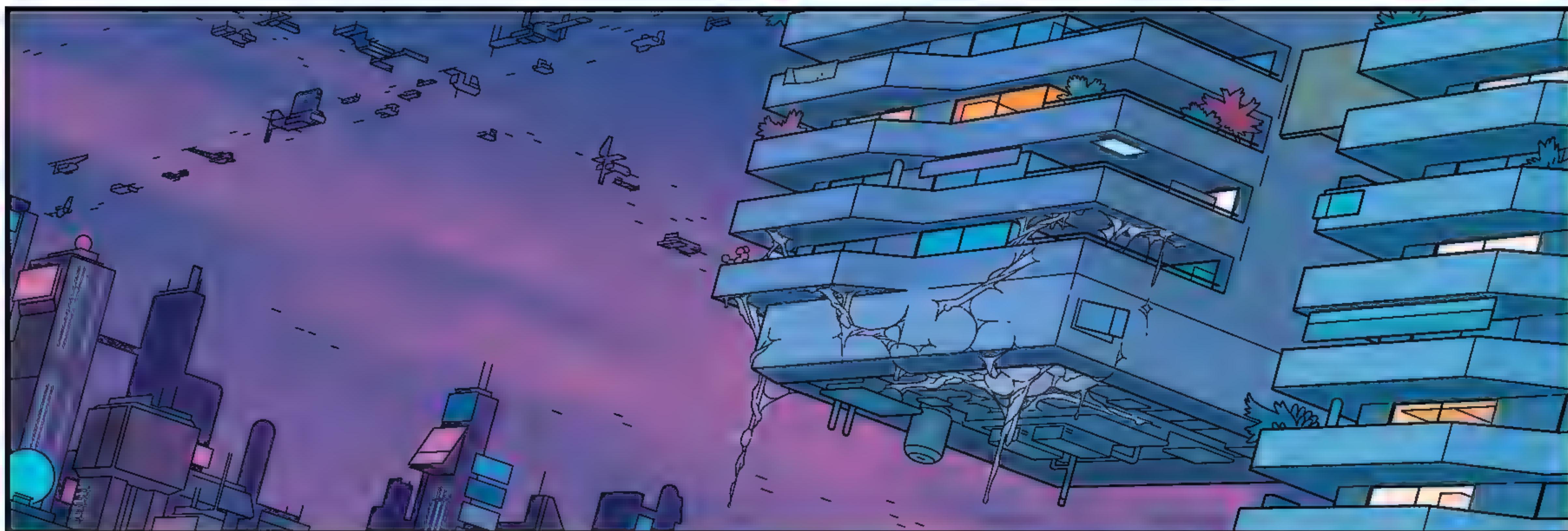












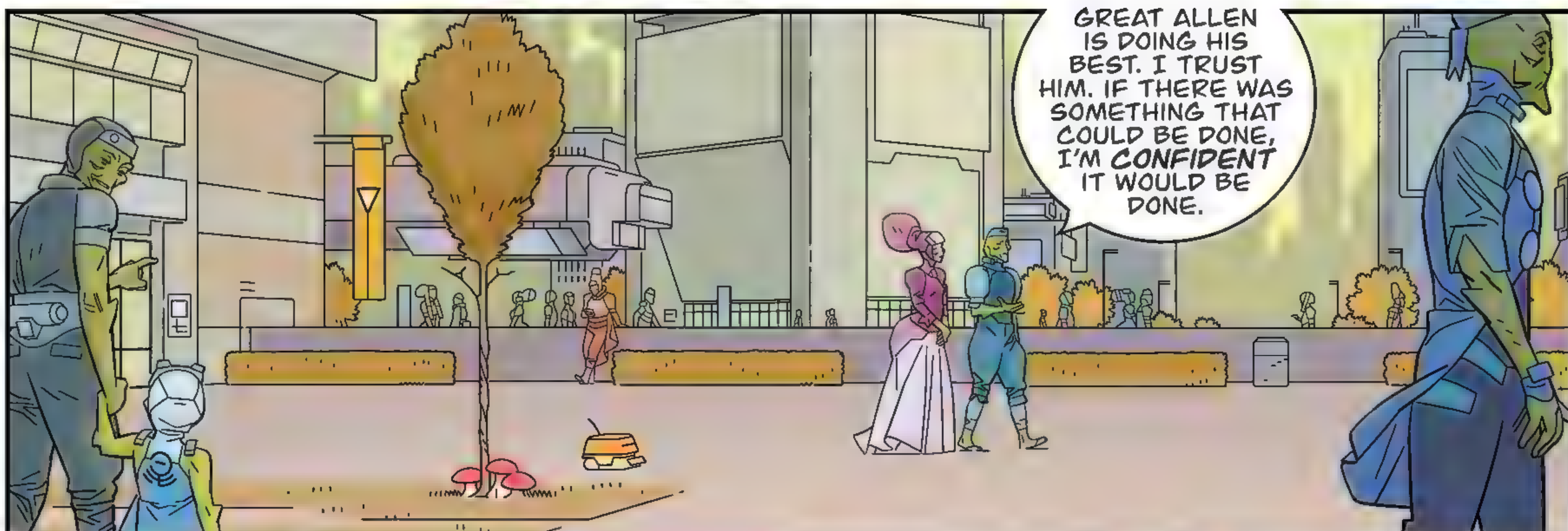




CHAPTER TWO



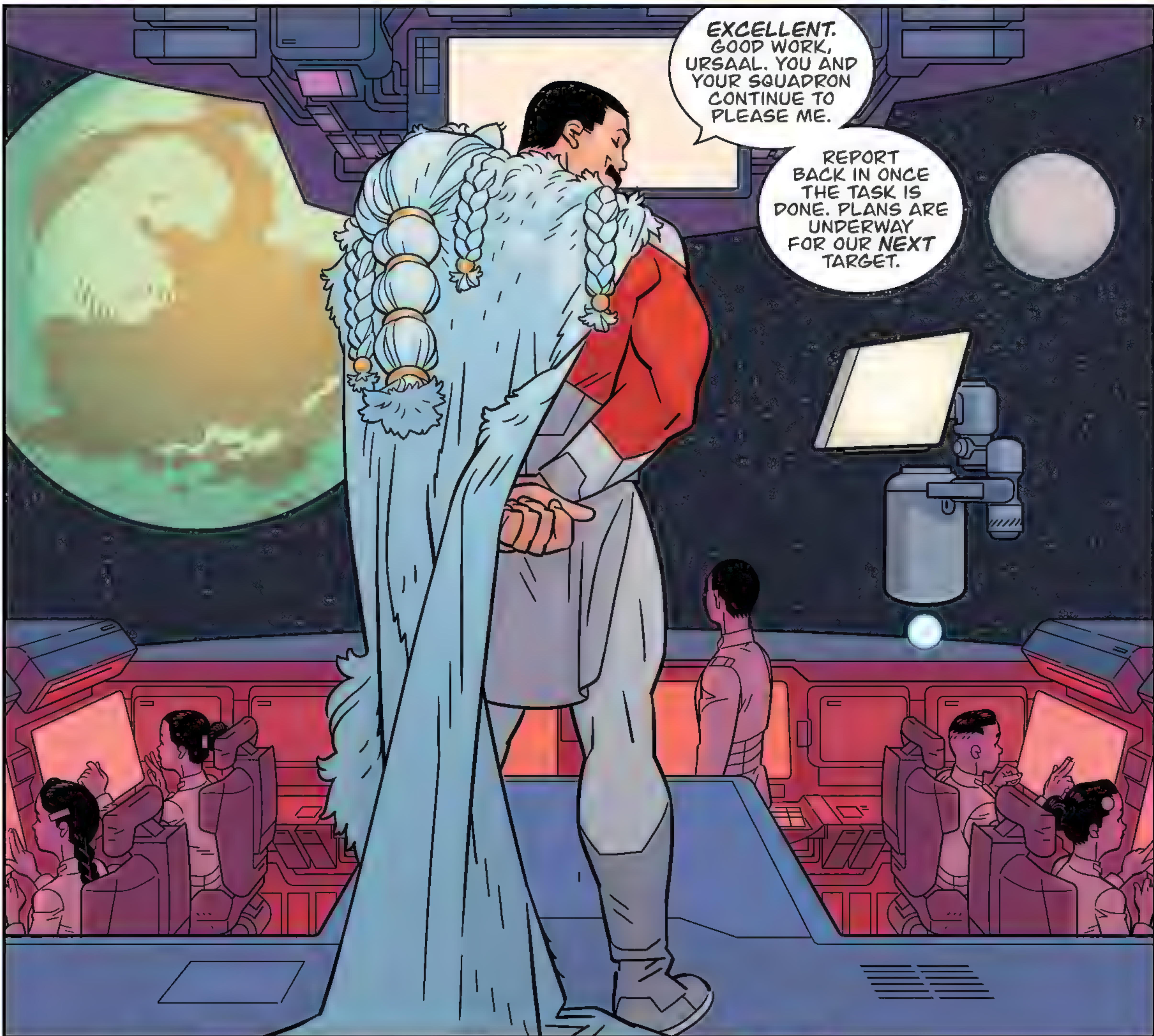
FYAN 16





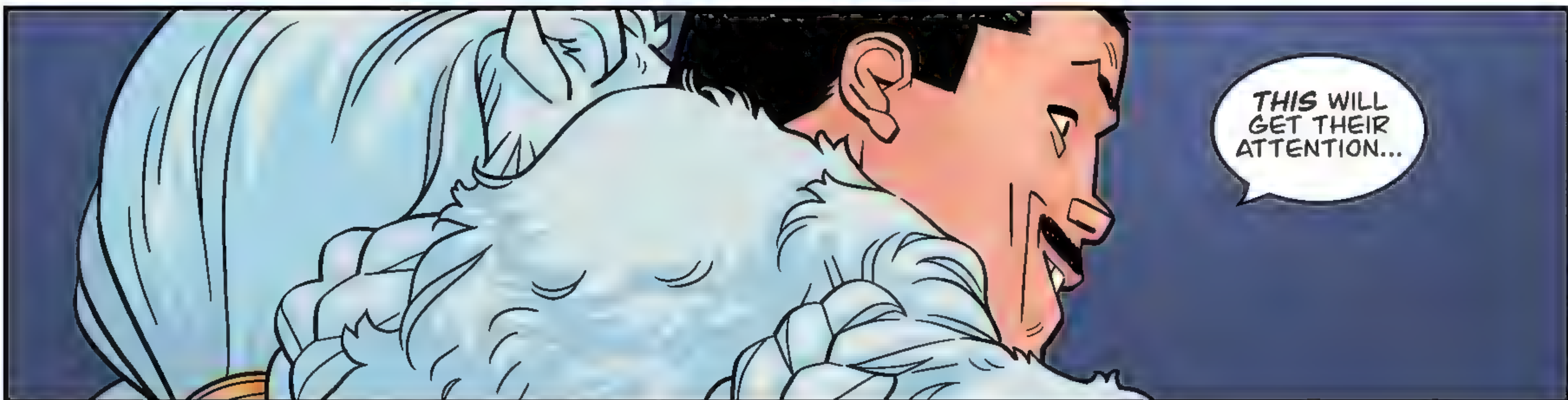
ALL GOES
ACCORDING
TO PLAN,
FATHER.

WE'LL
HAVE COMPLETE
CONTROL OF THIS
PLANET IN A
MATTER OF
MINUTES.

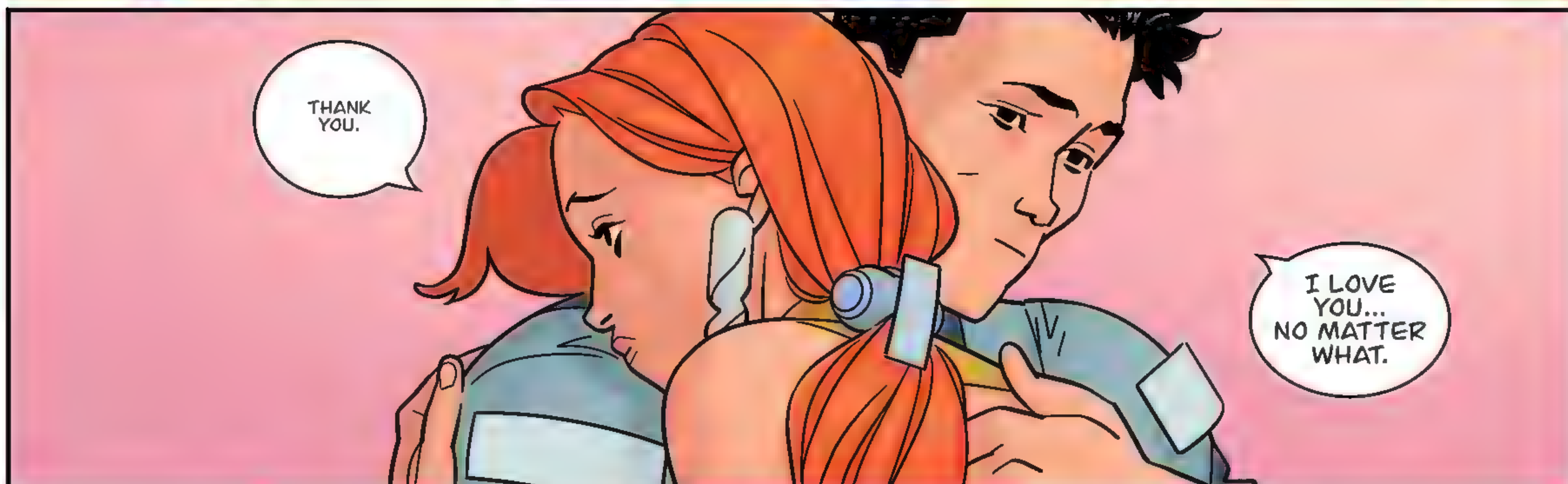
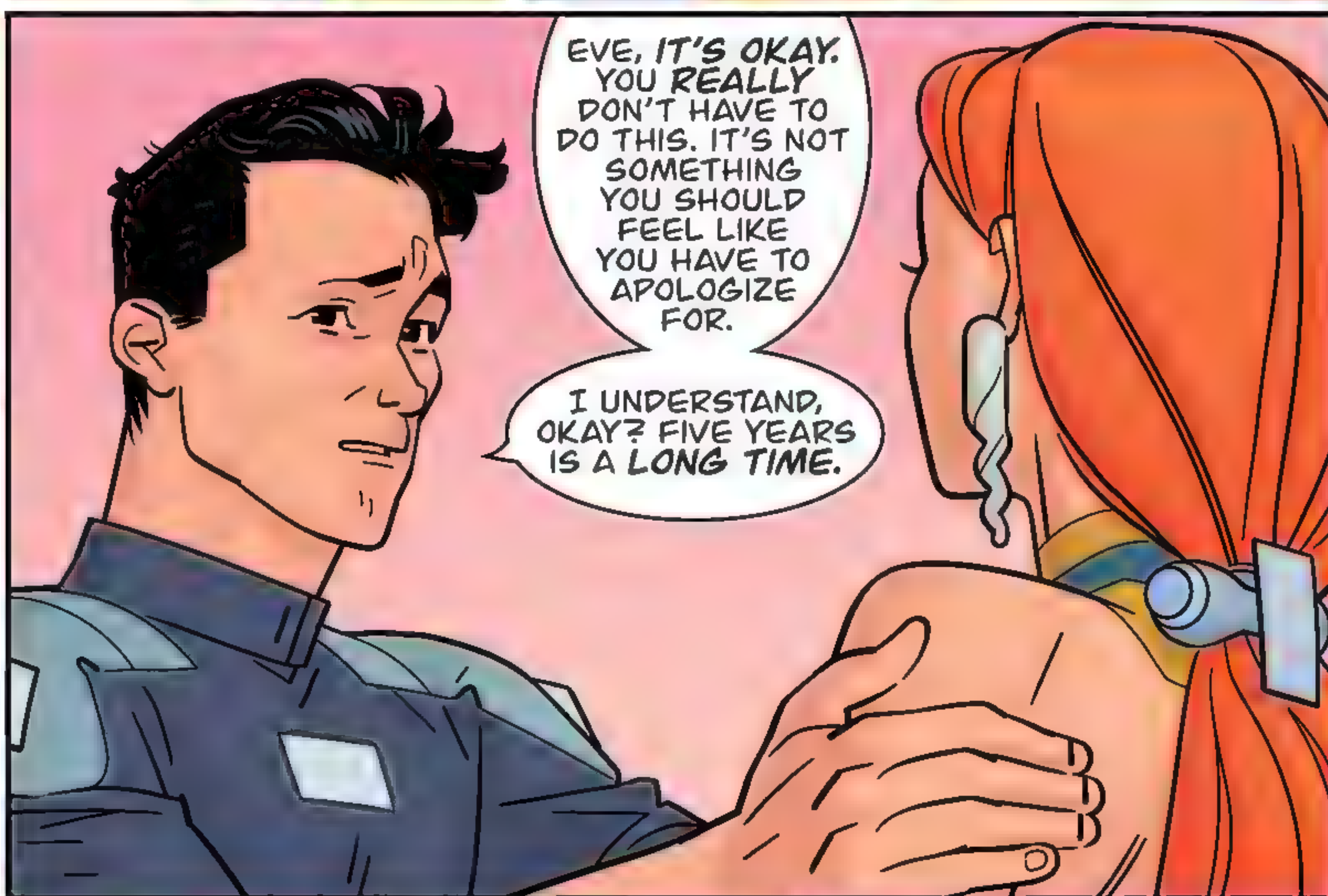
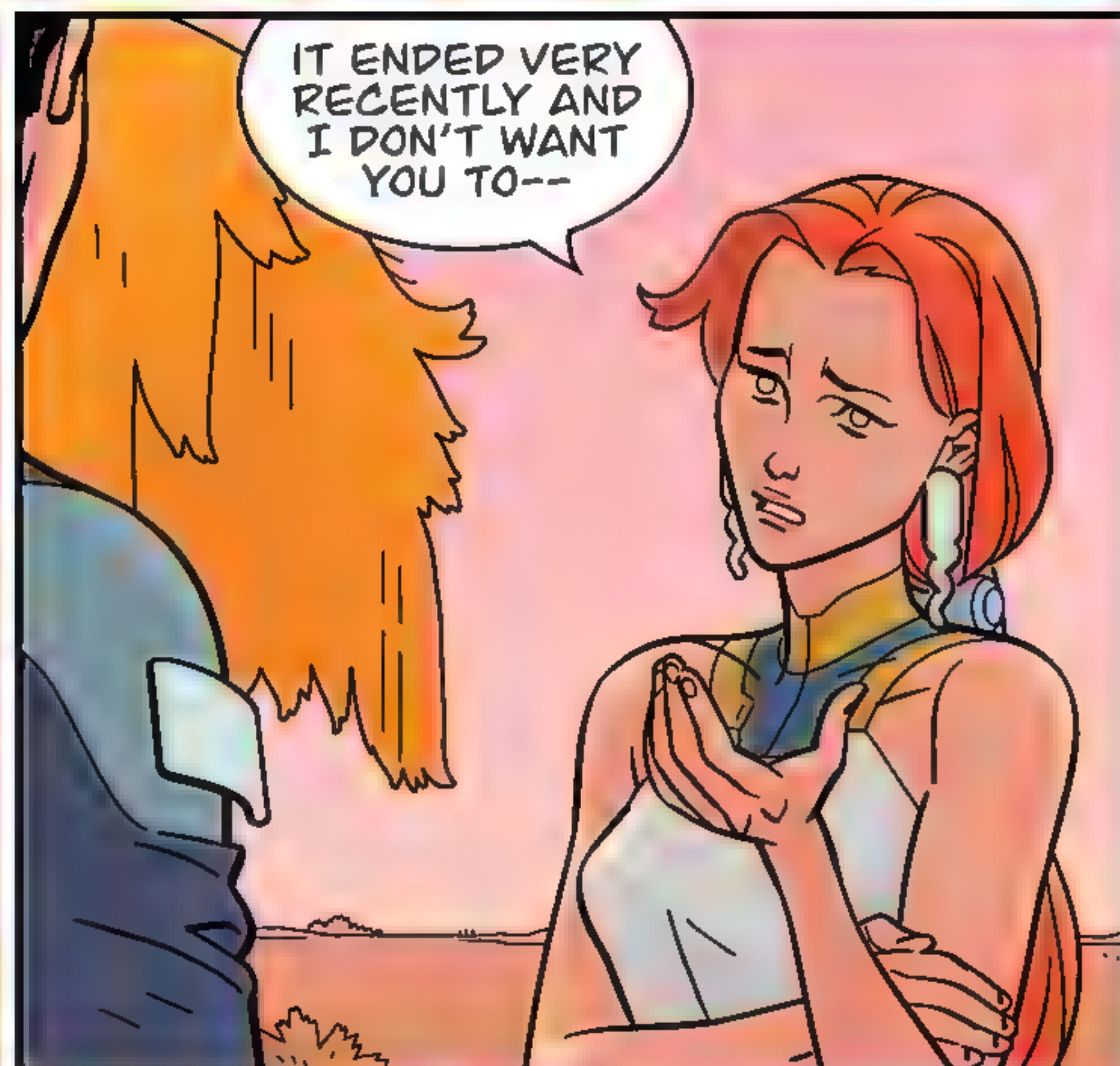
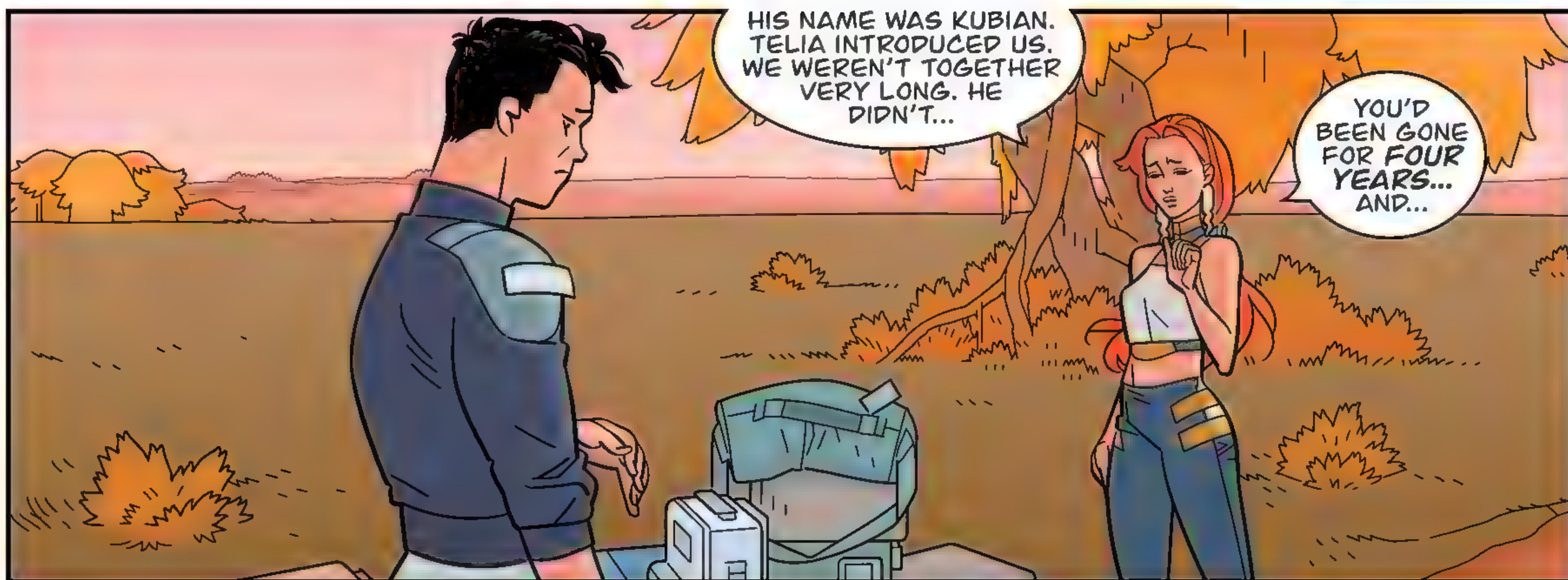


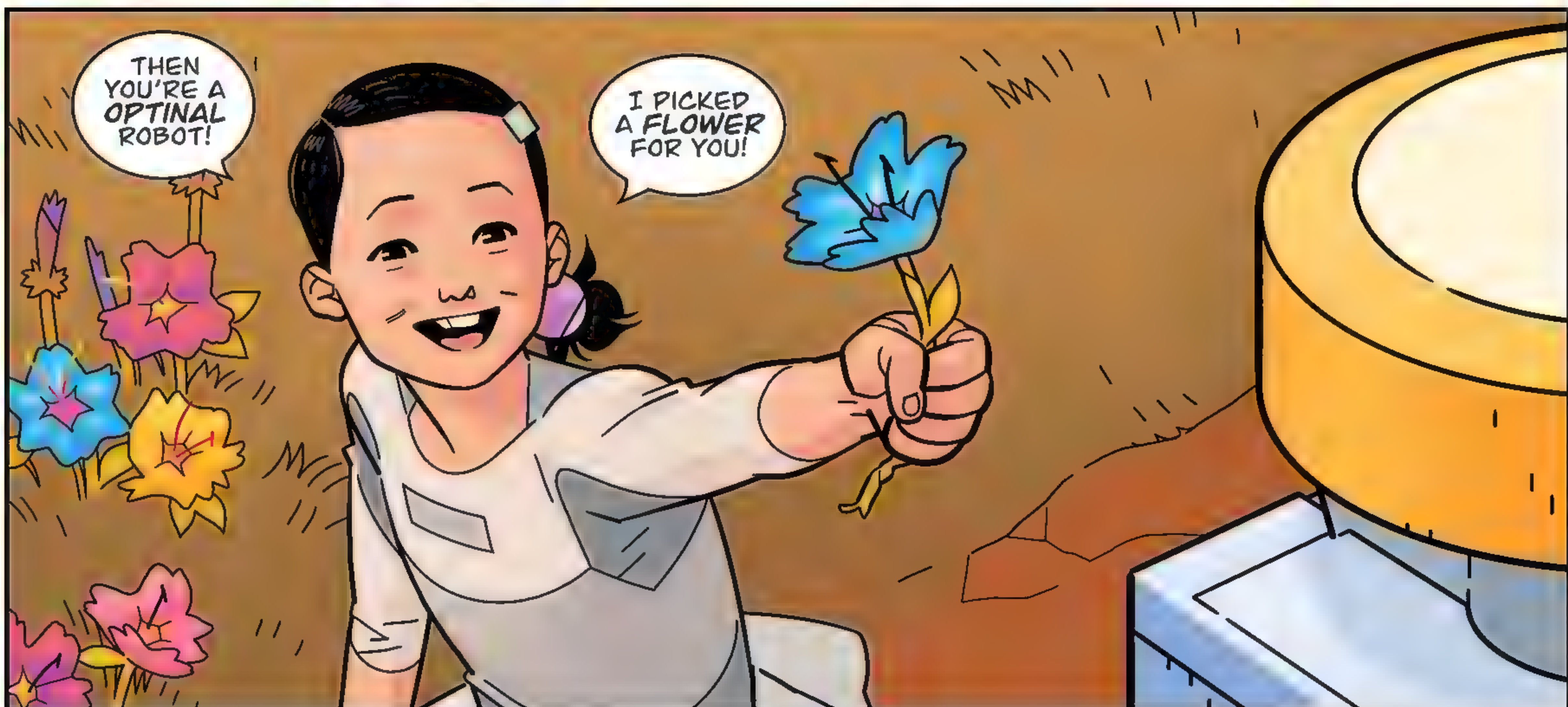
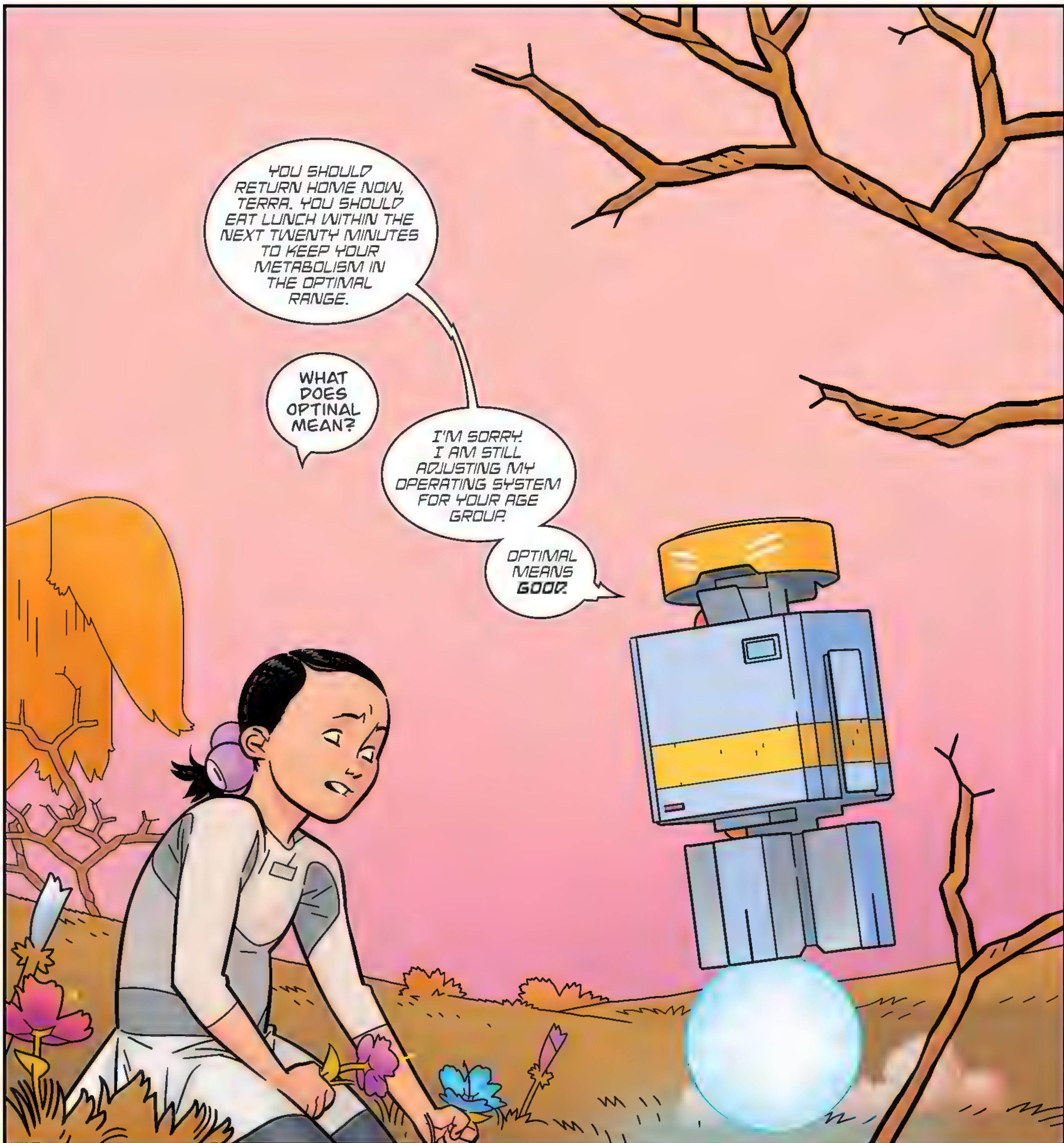
EXCELLENT.
GOOD WORK,
URSAAL. YOU AND
YOUR SQUADRON
CONTINUE TO
PLEASE ME.

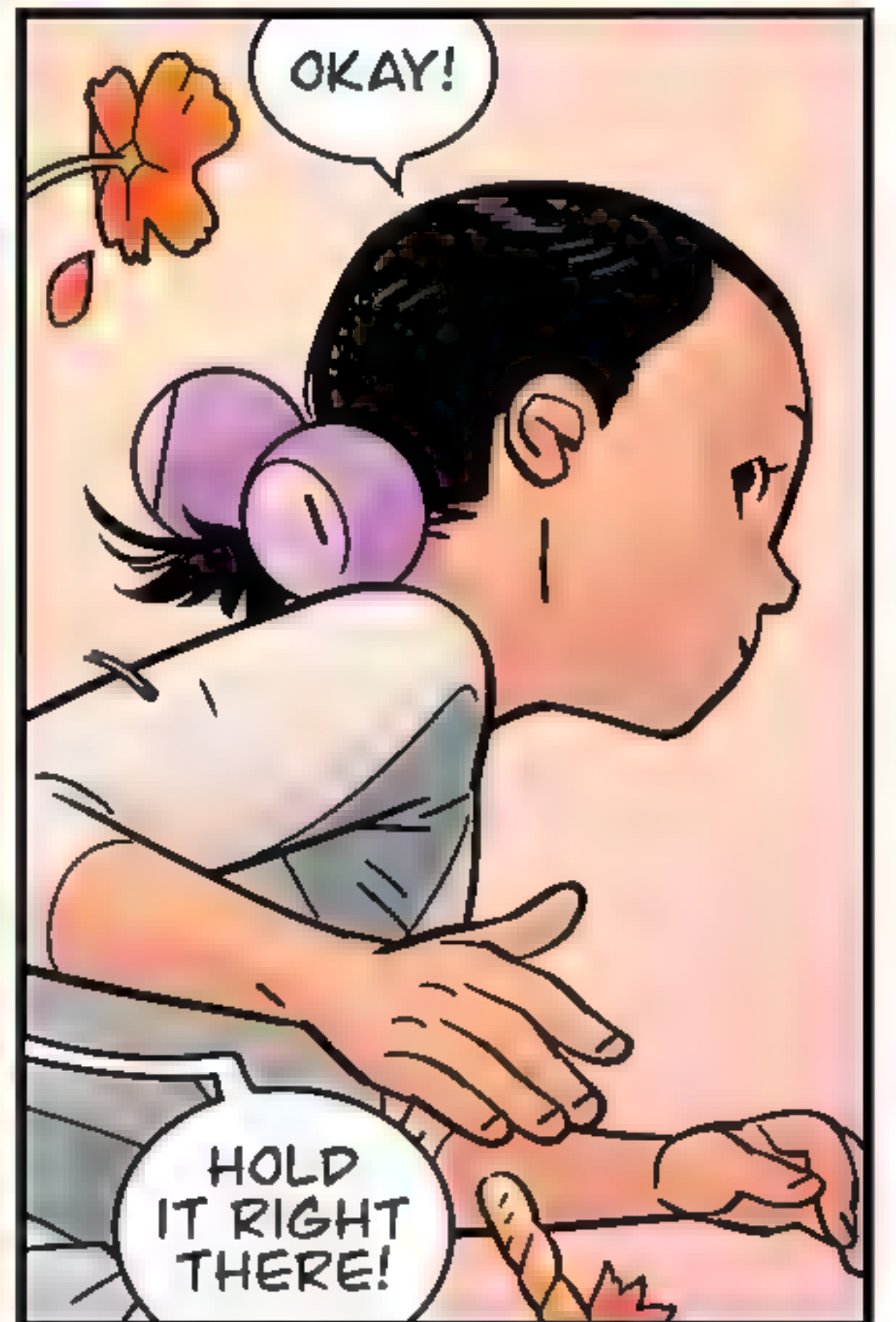
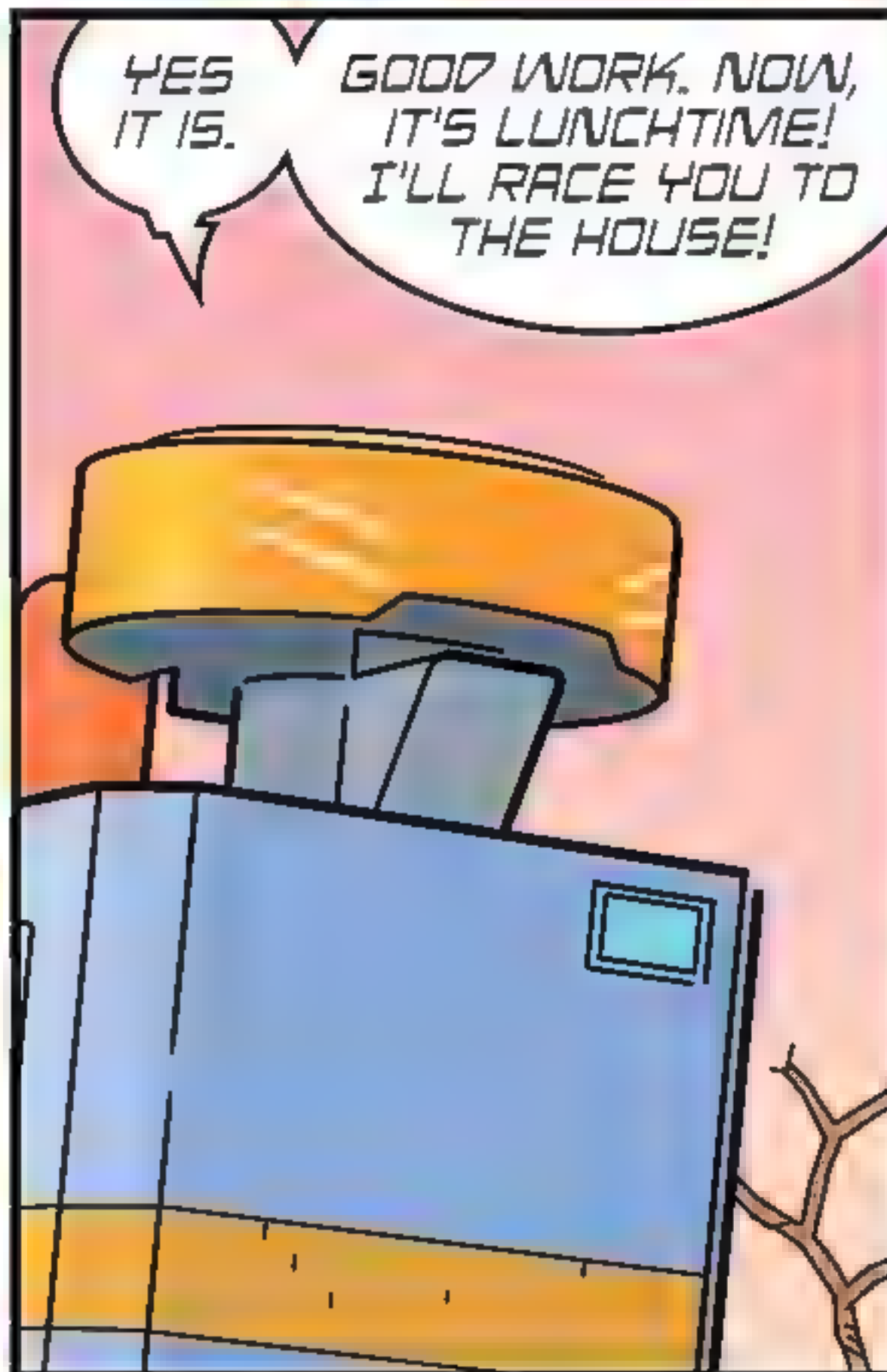
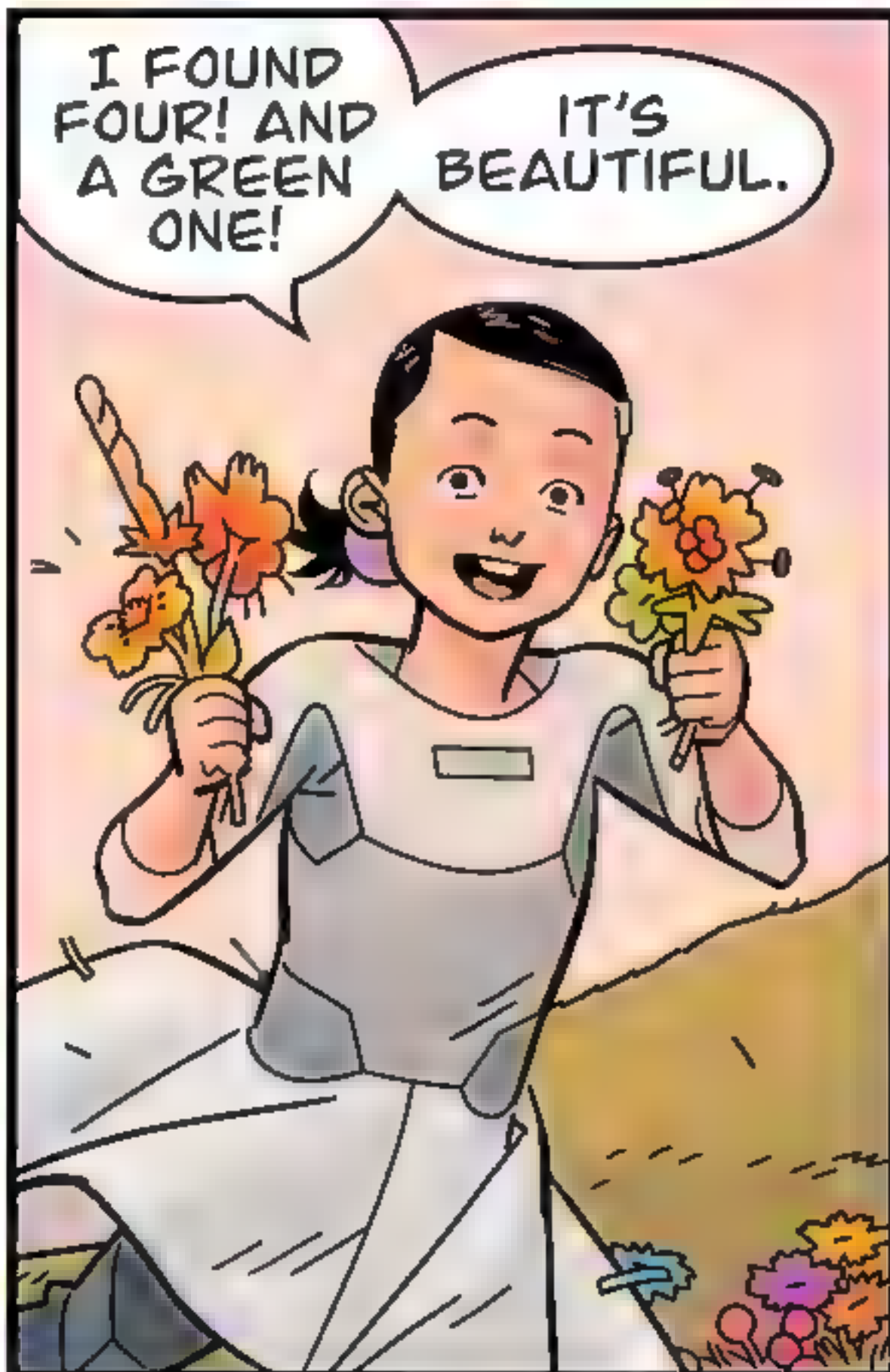
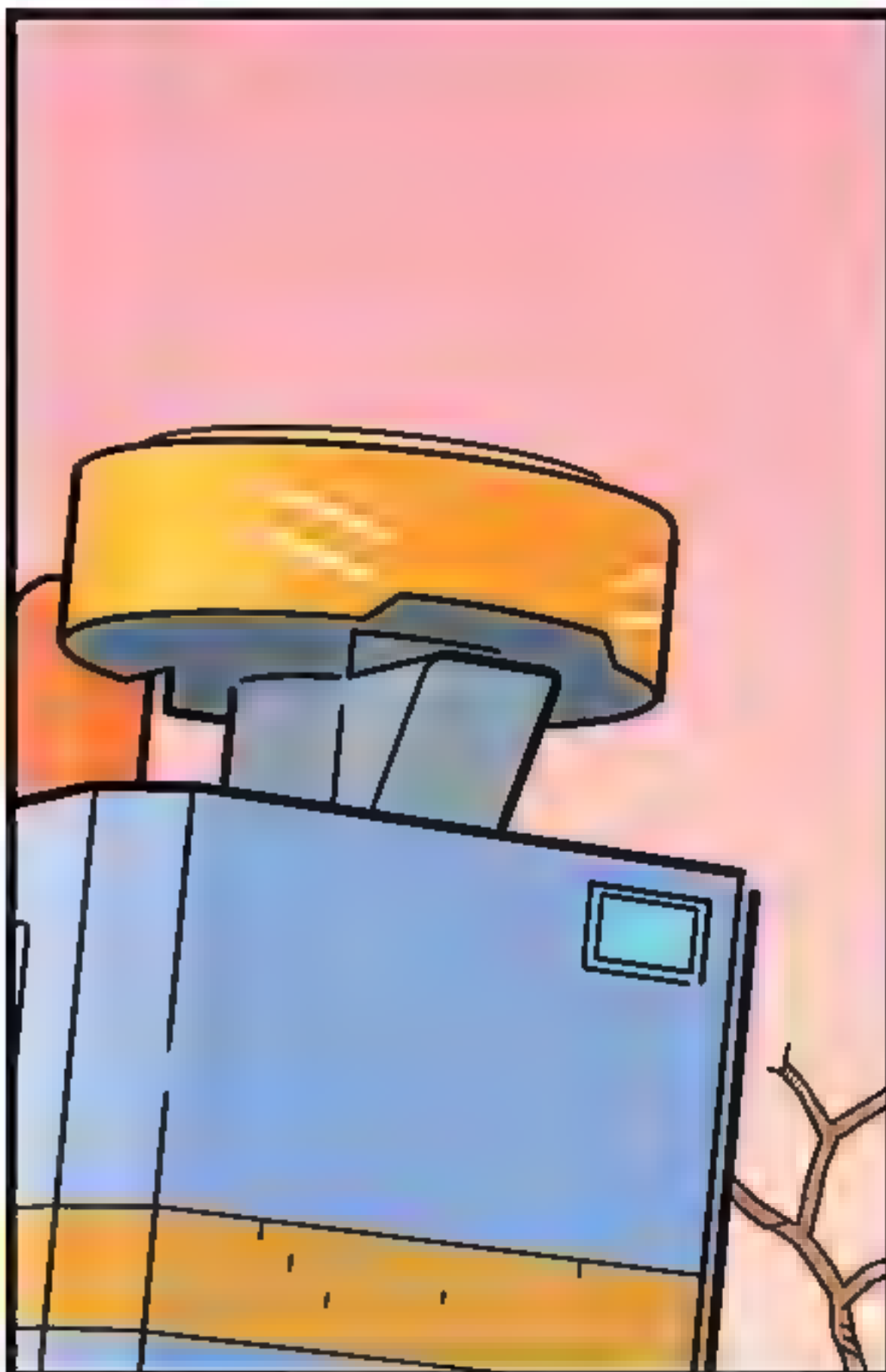
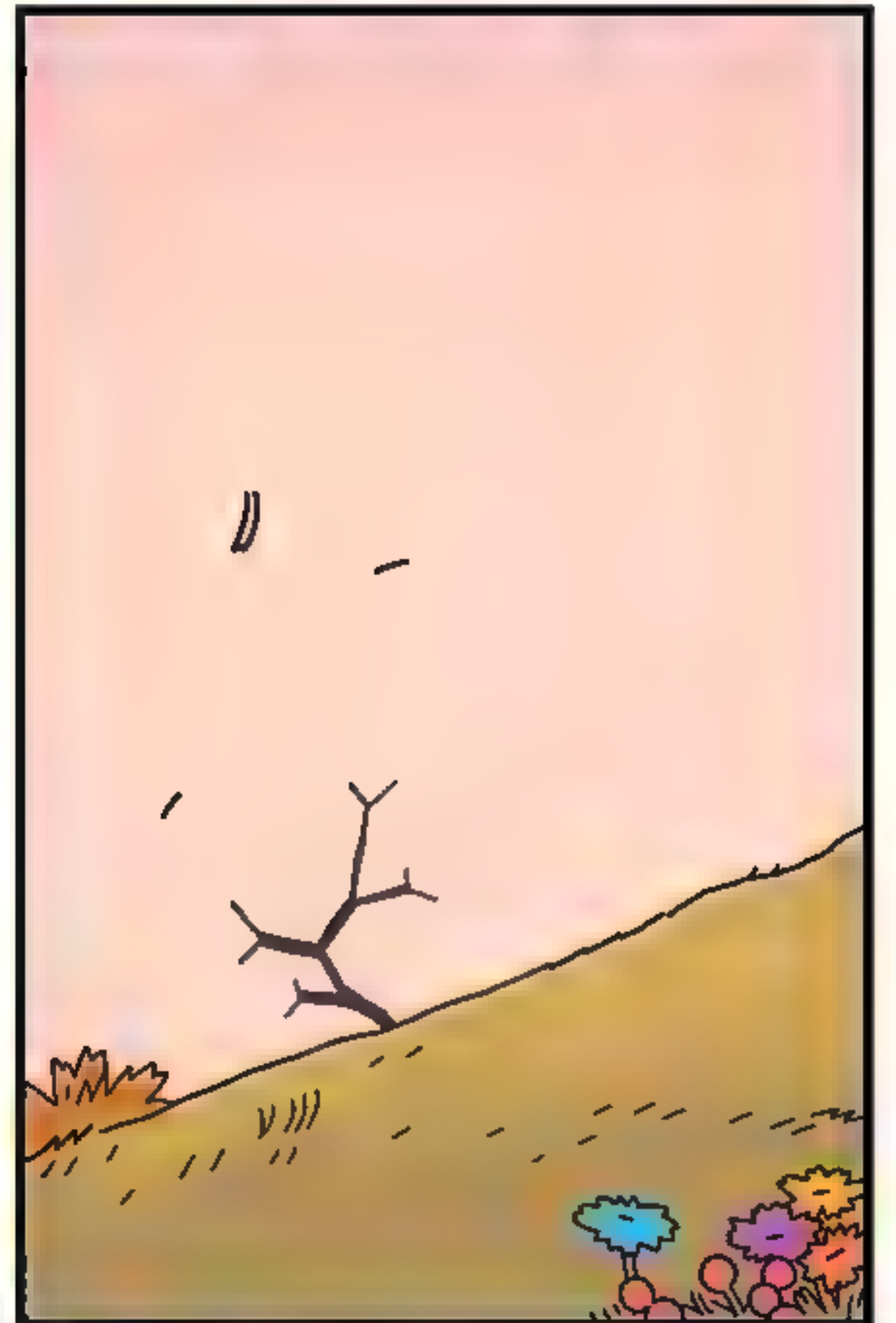
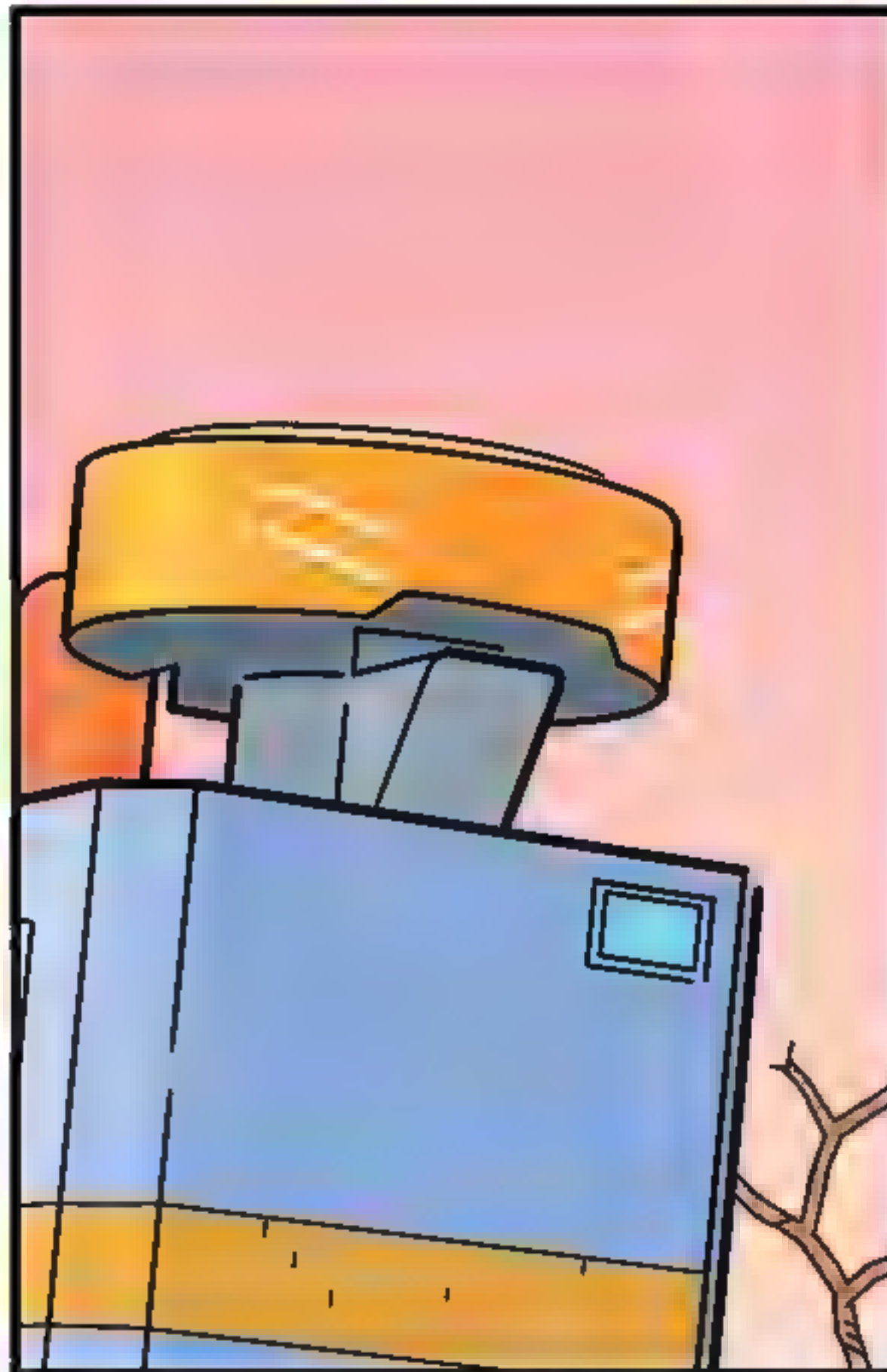
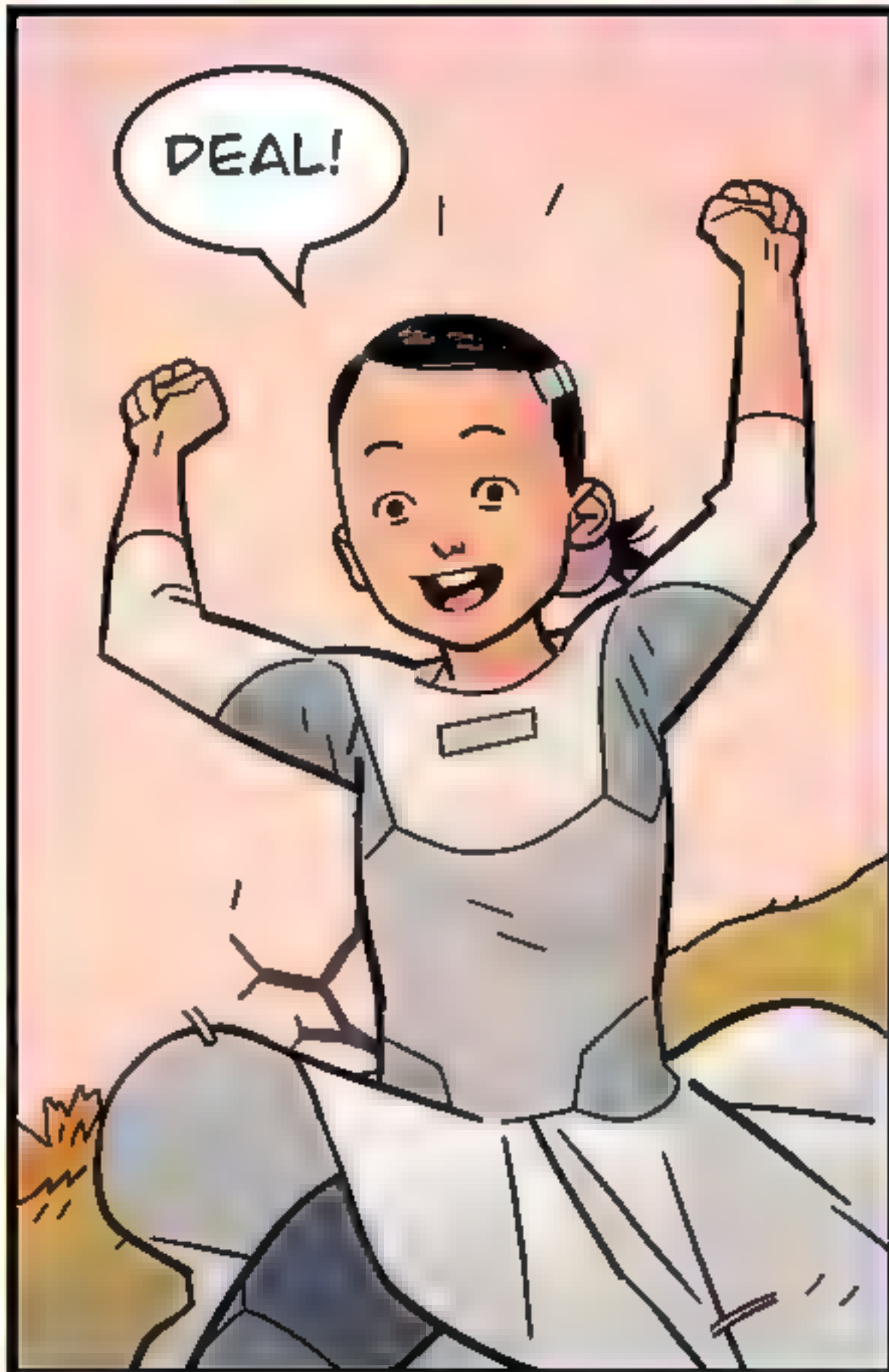
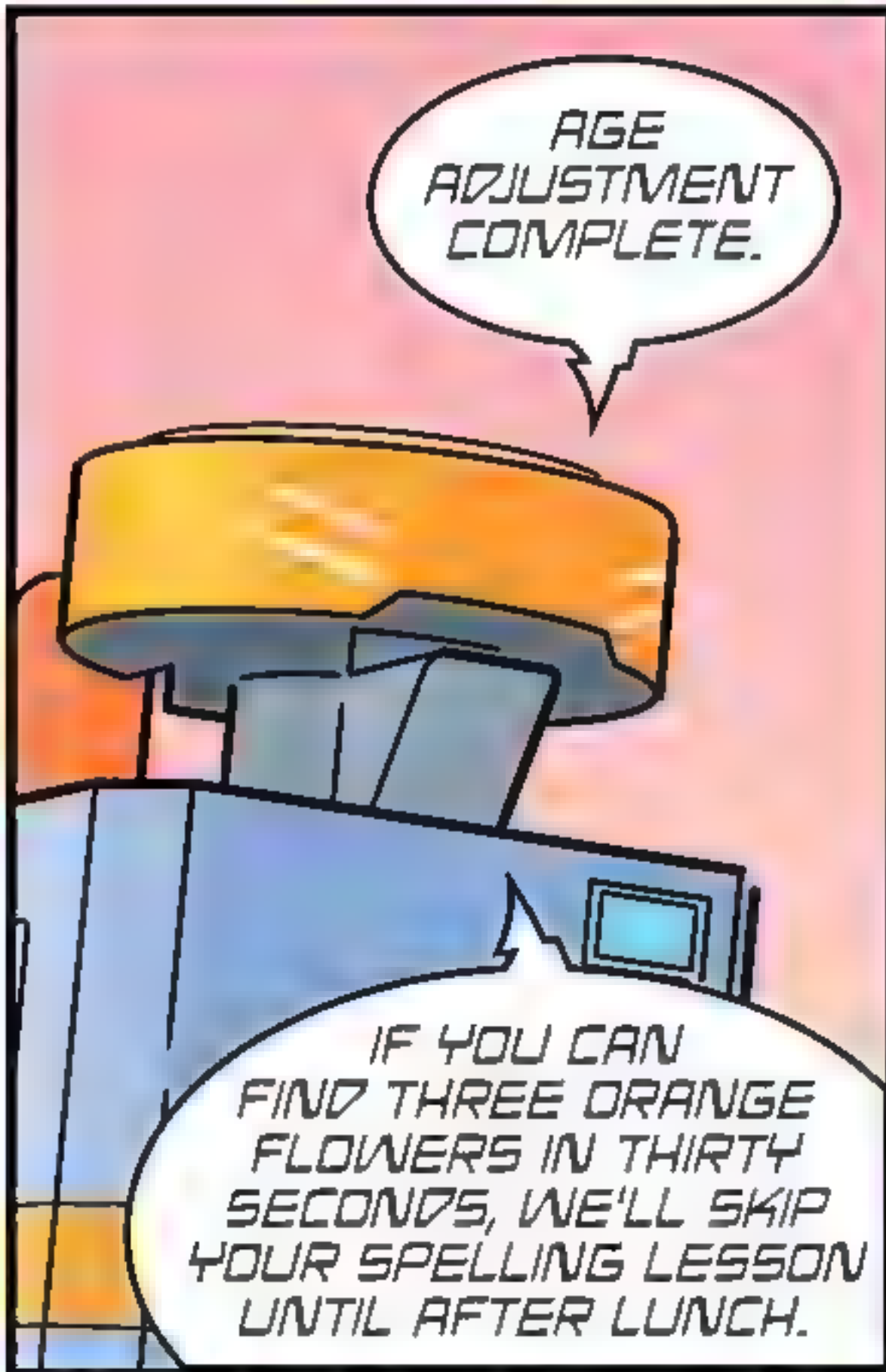
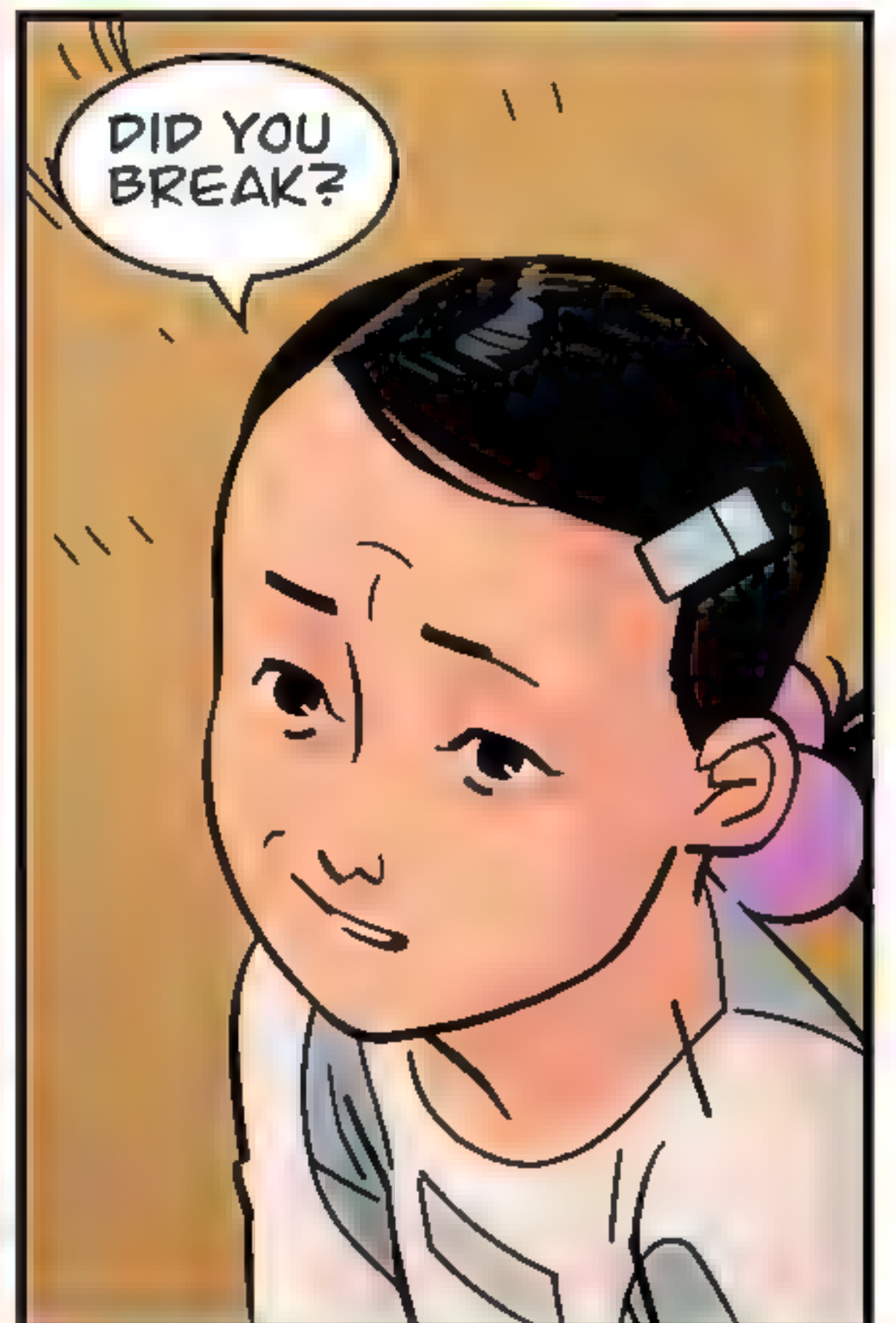
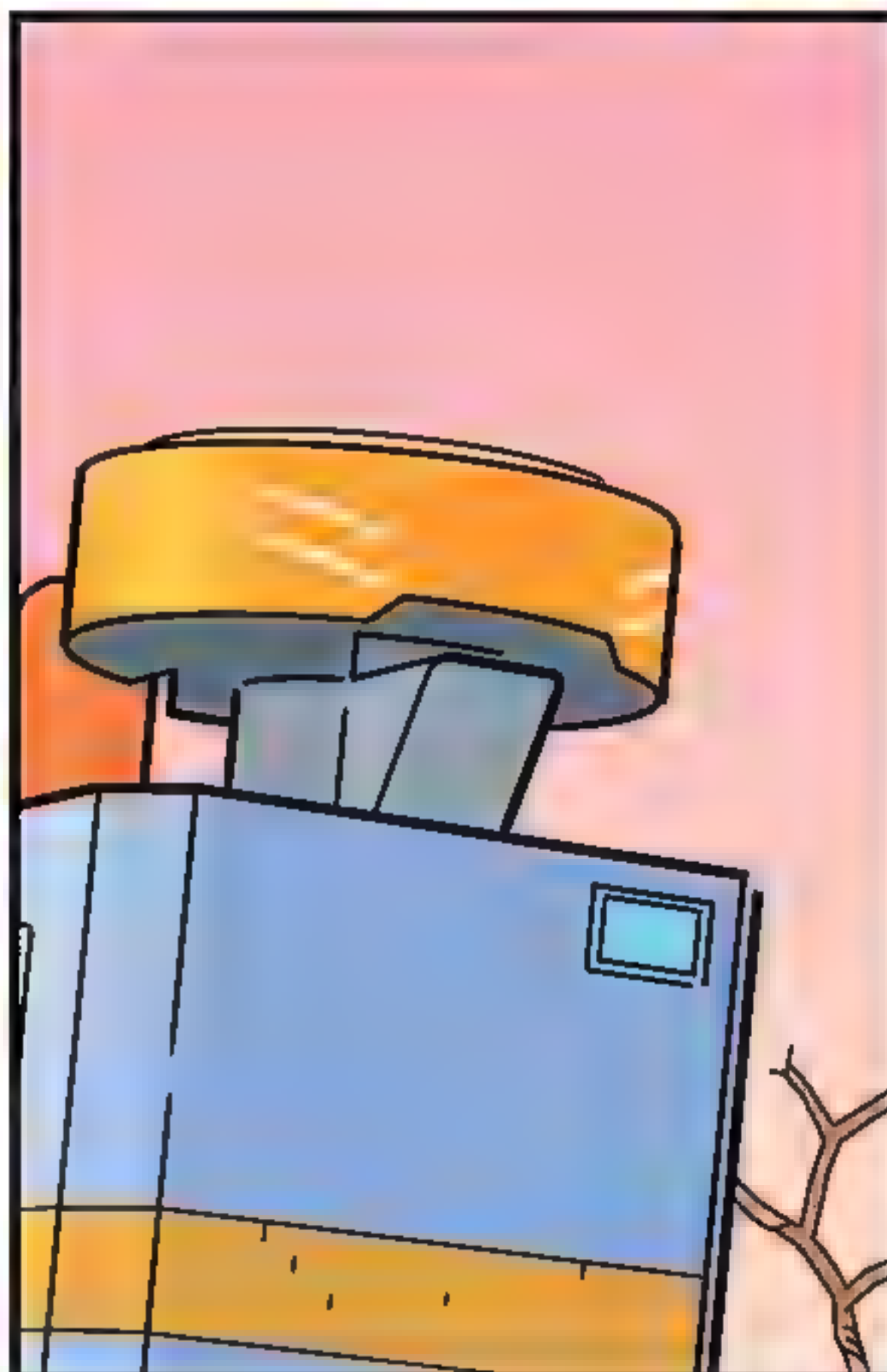
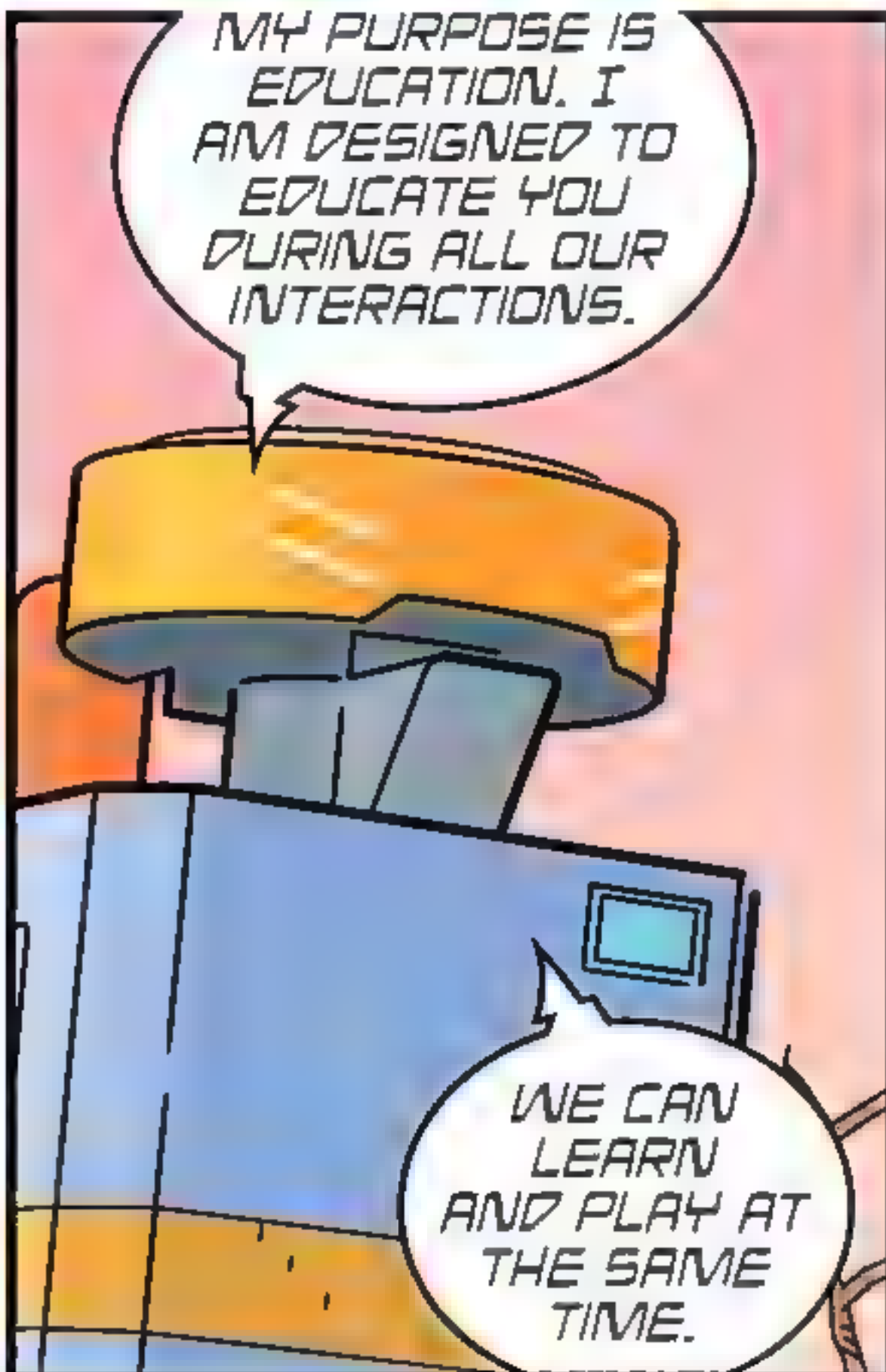
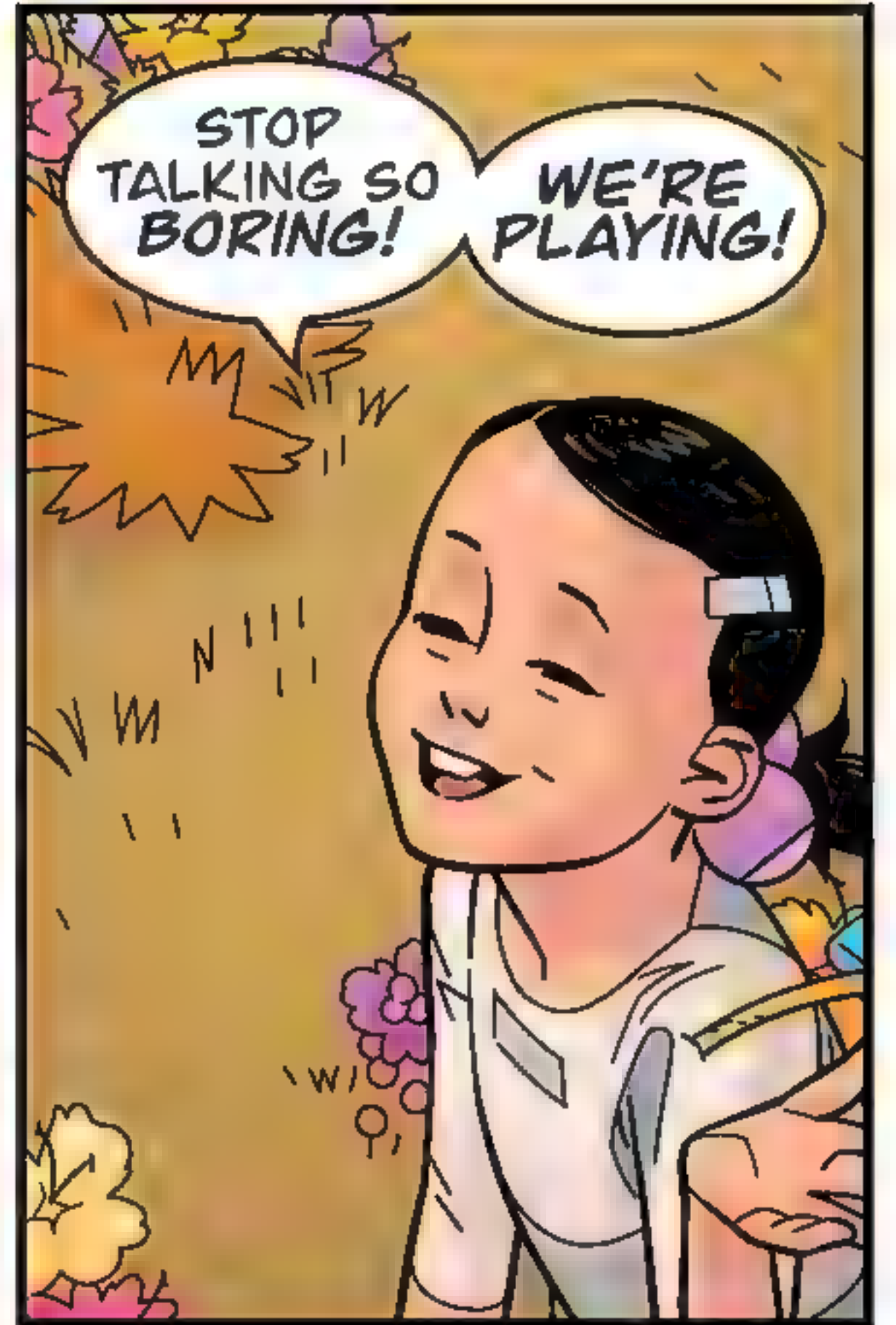
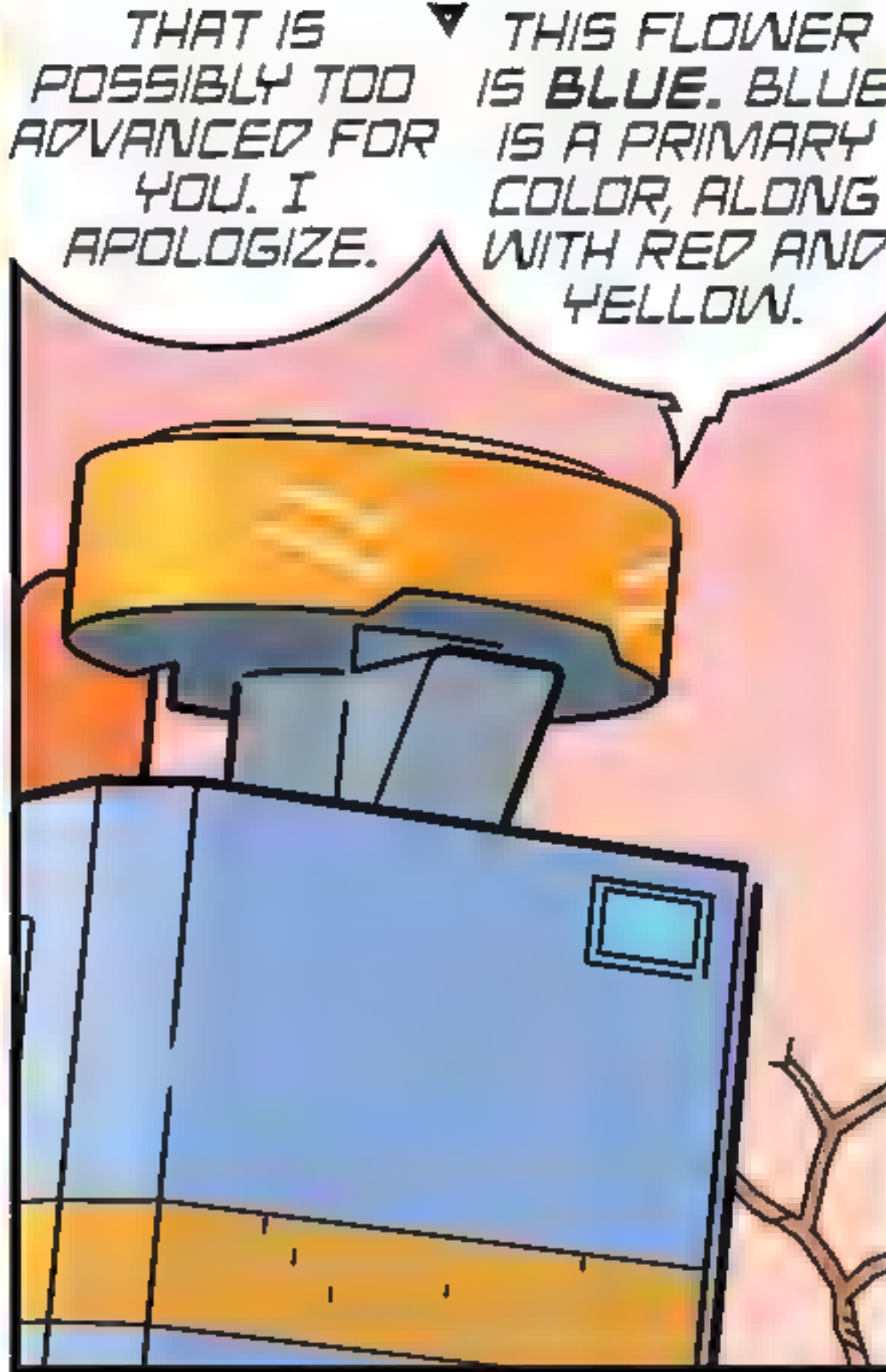
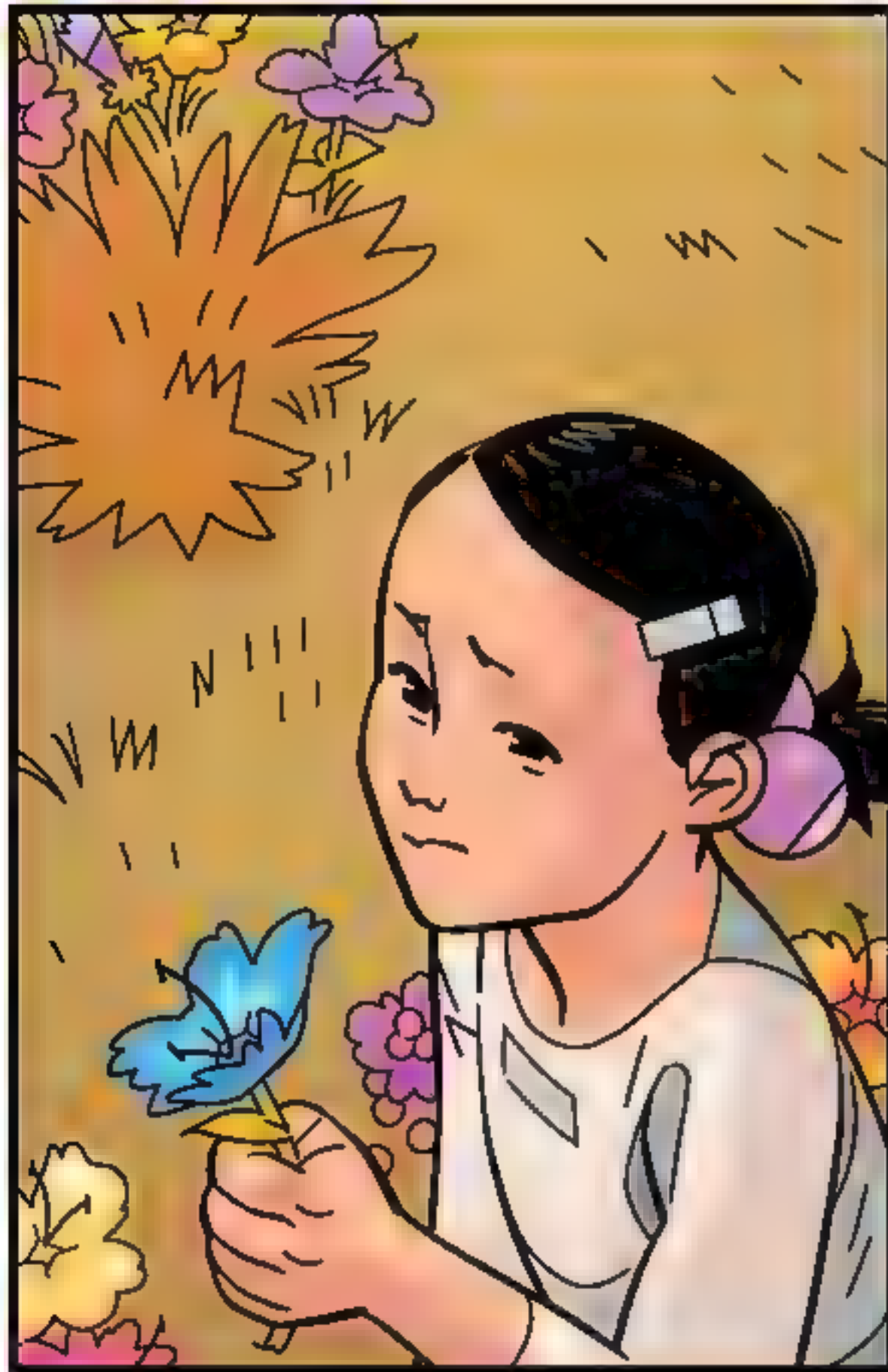
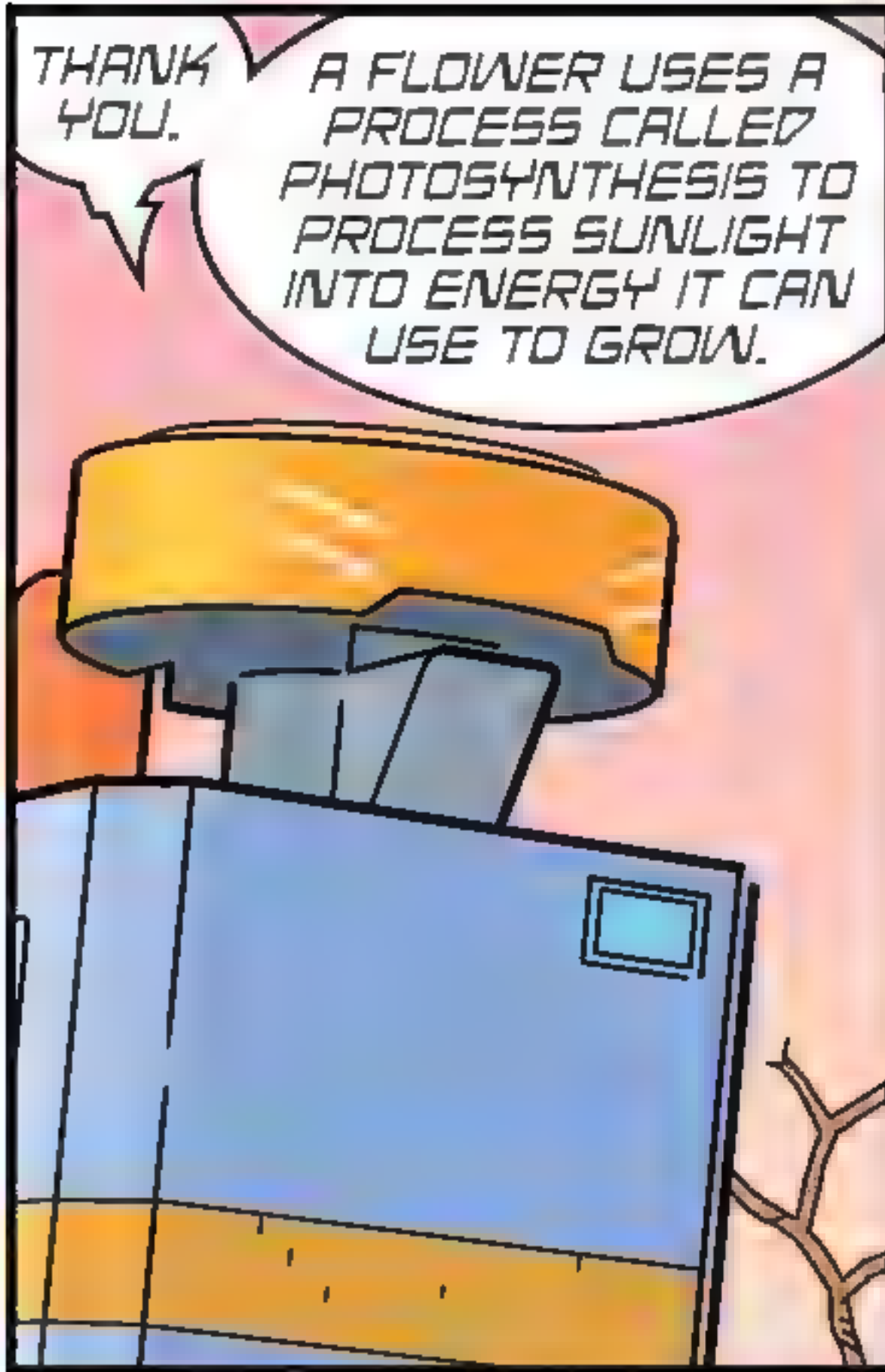
REPORT
BACK IN ONCE
THE TASK IS
DONE. PLANS ARE
UNDERWAY
FOR OUR NEXT
TARGET.

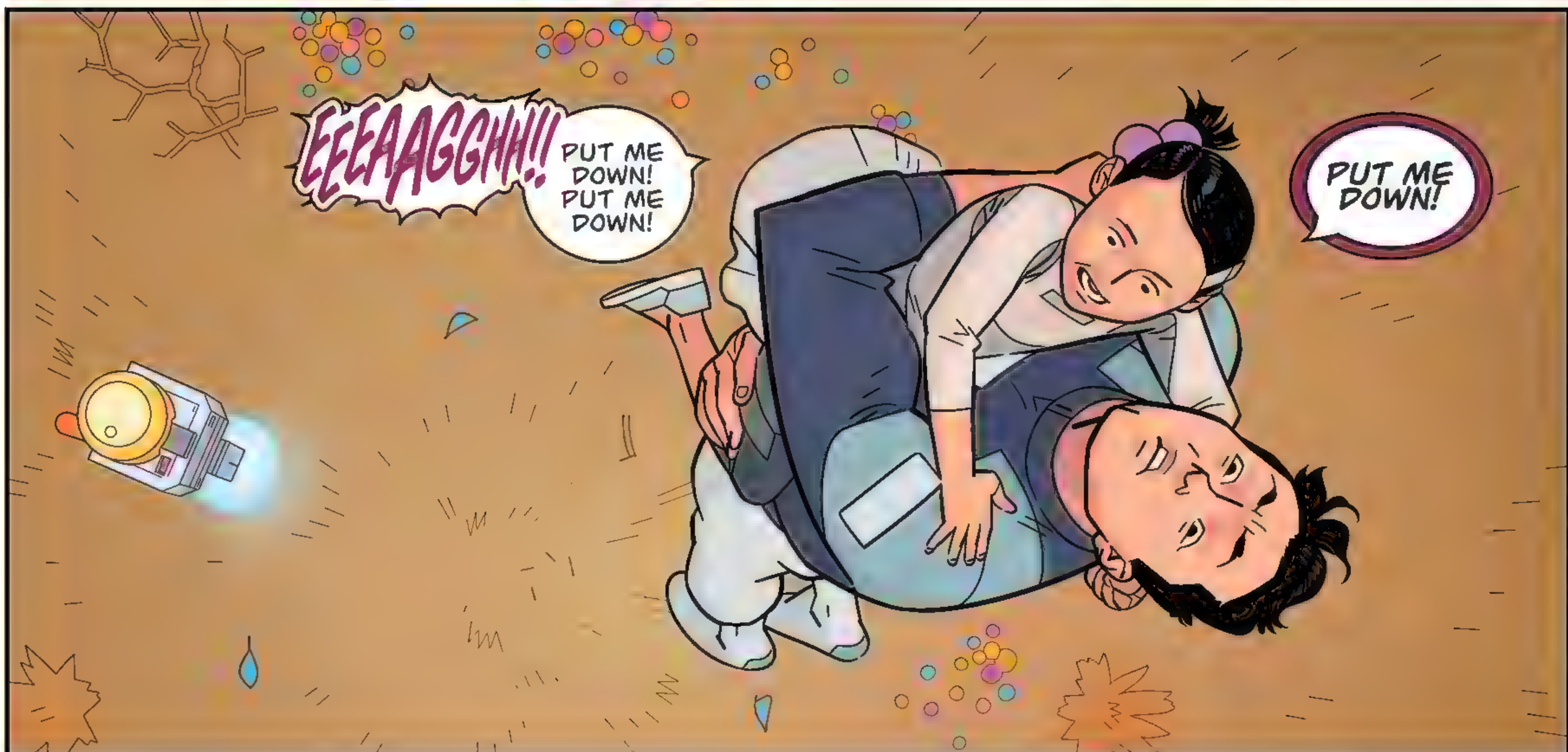
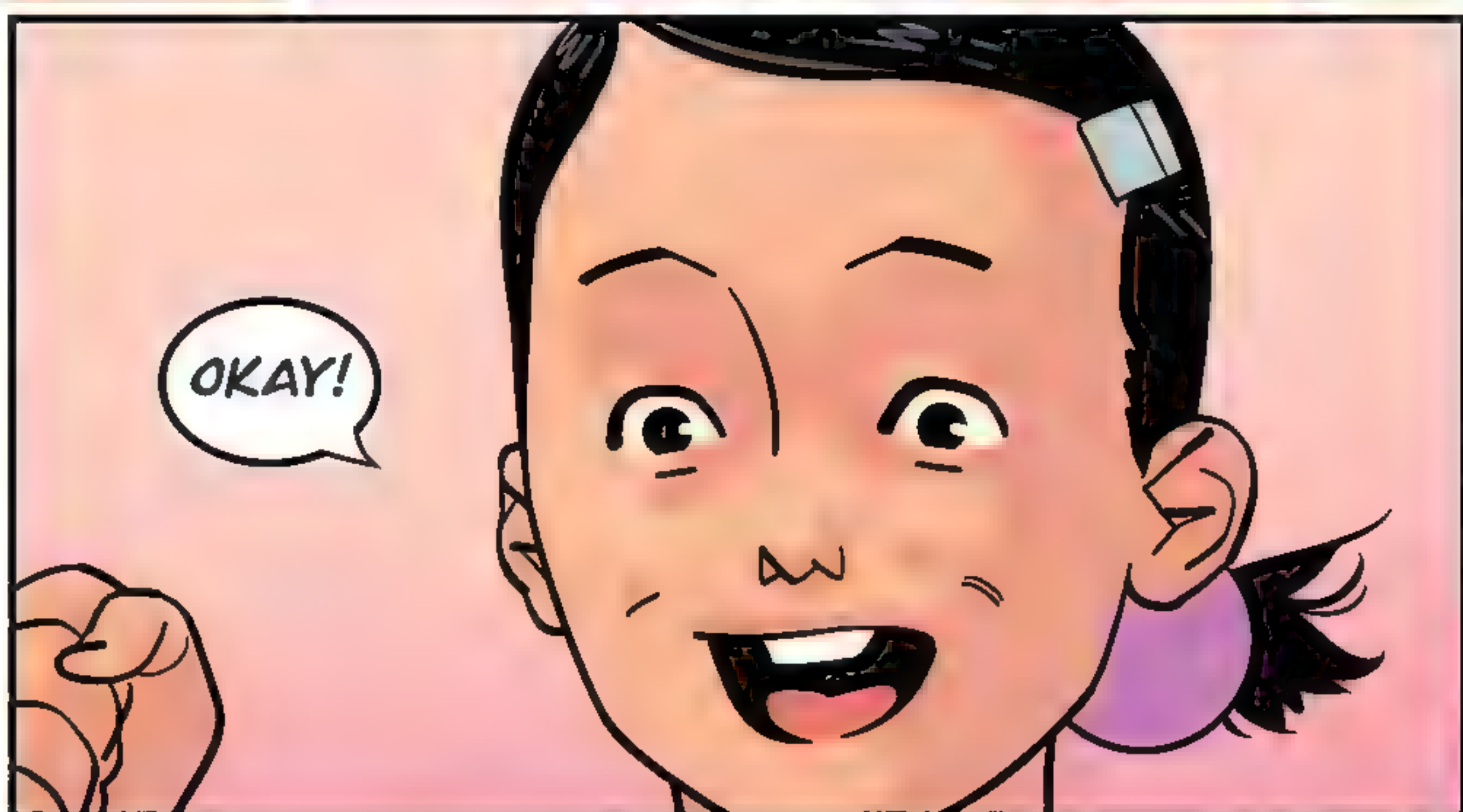
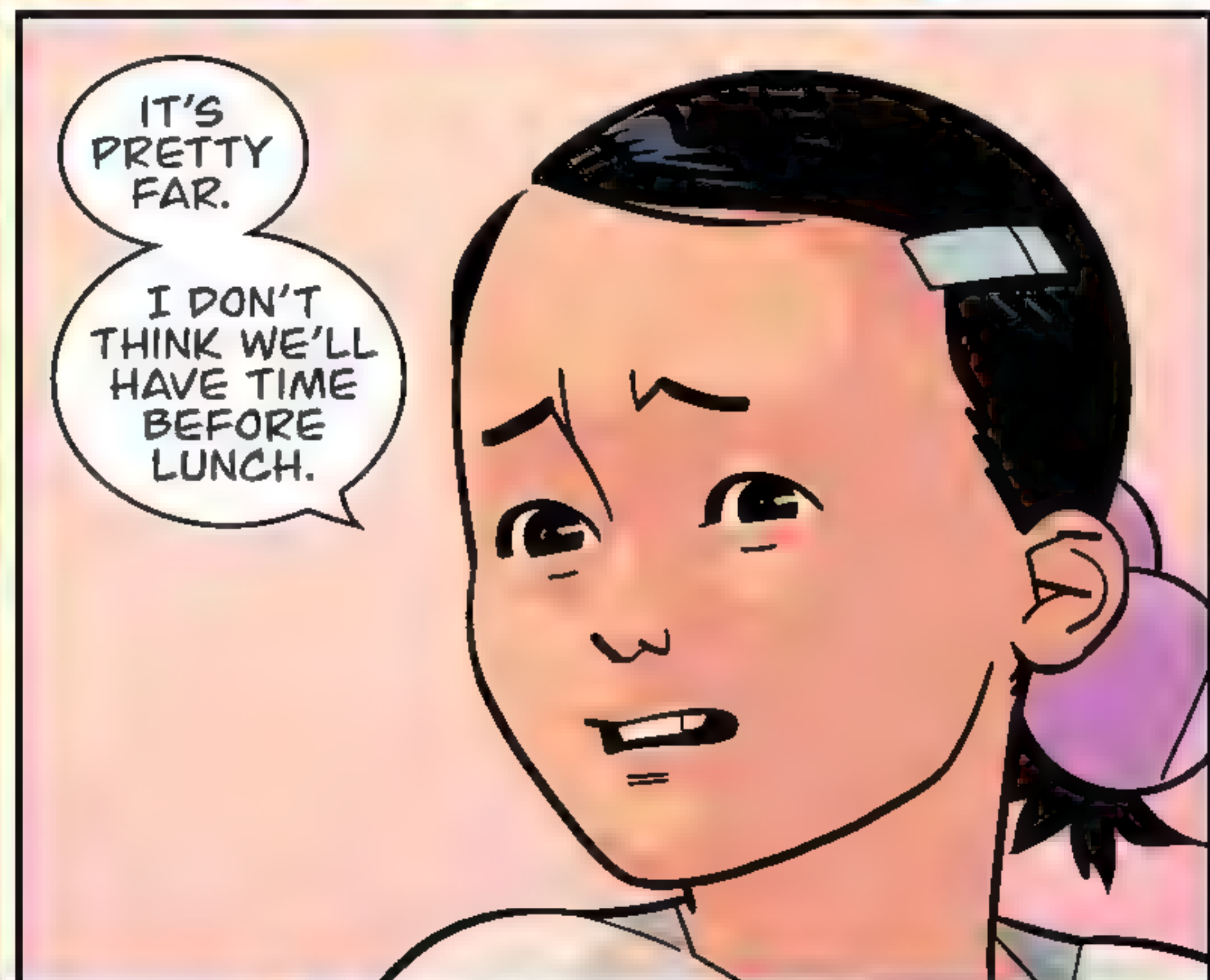
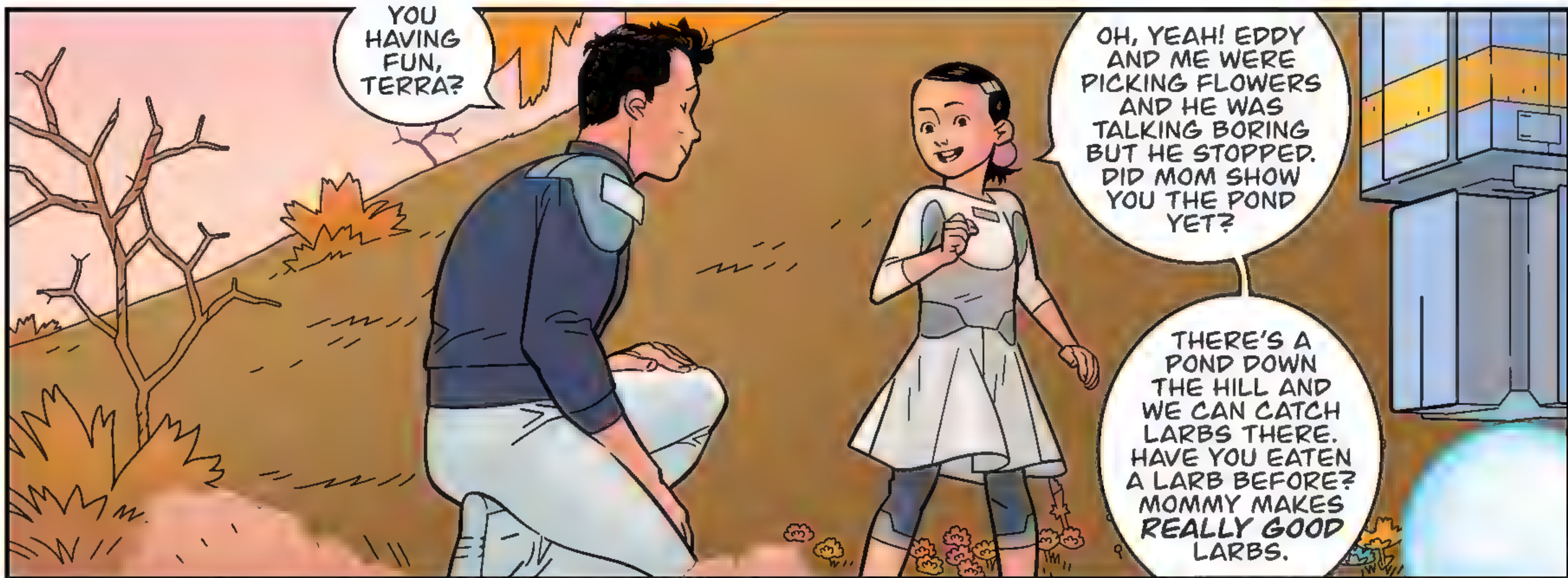


THIS WILL
GET THEIR
ATTENTION...









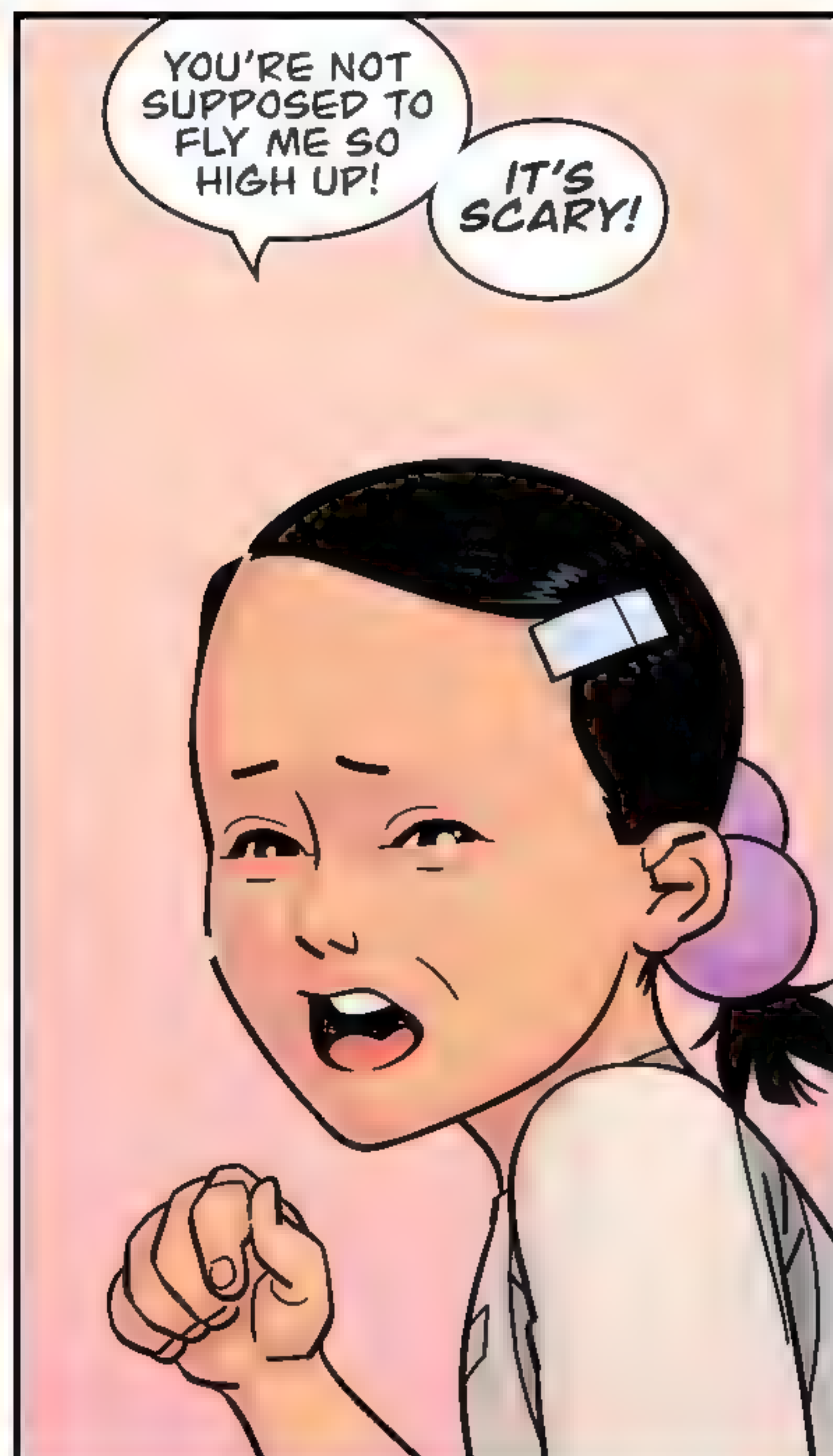


I'M SORRY!
I'M SORRY!



WE'RE ON THE
GROUND NOW!
YOU'RE OKAY.
YOU'RE
SAFE.

YOU'RE
OKAY.



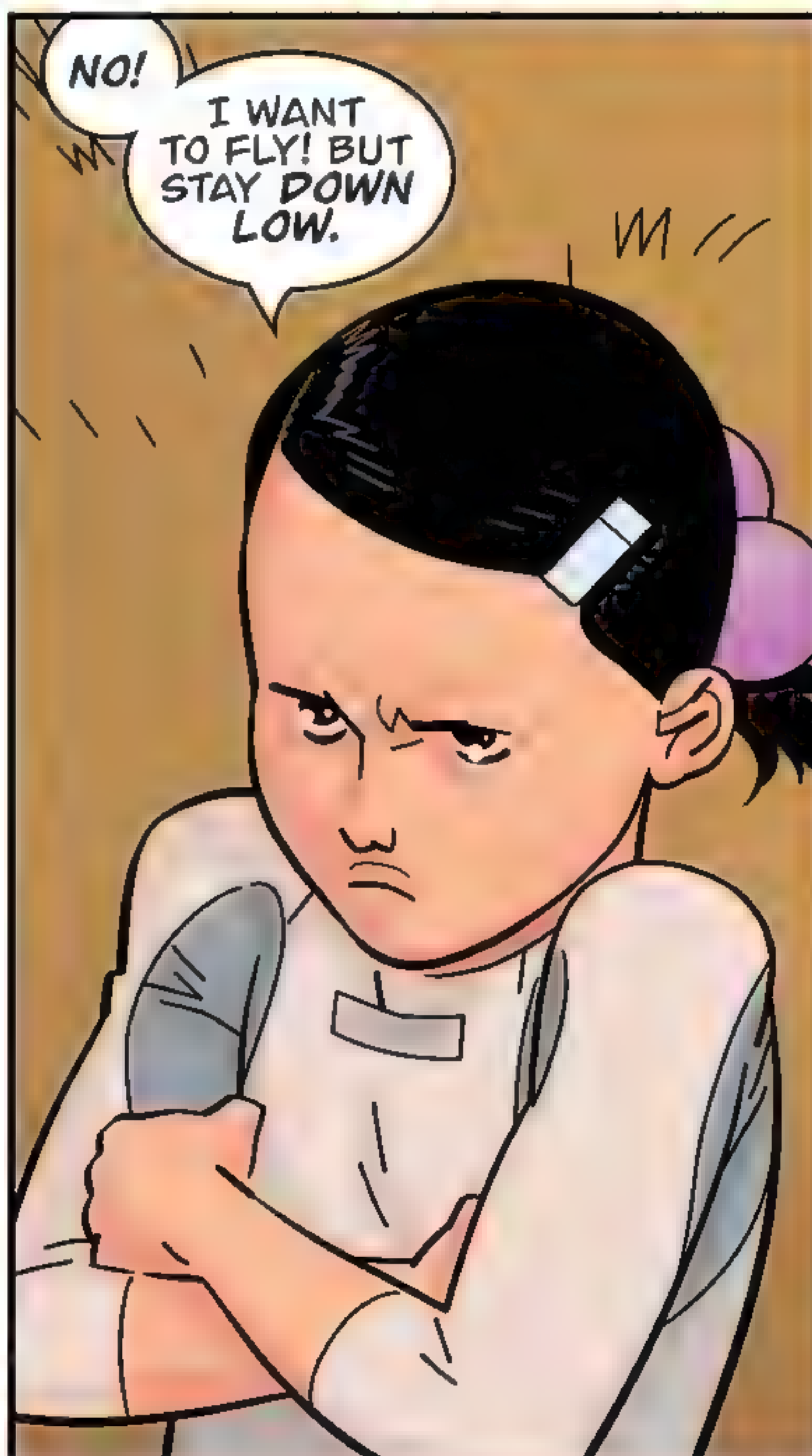
YOU'RE NOT
SUPPOSED TO
FLY ME SO
HIGH UP!

IT'S
SCARY!



OKAY. WE
WON'T DO
IT AGAIN.

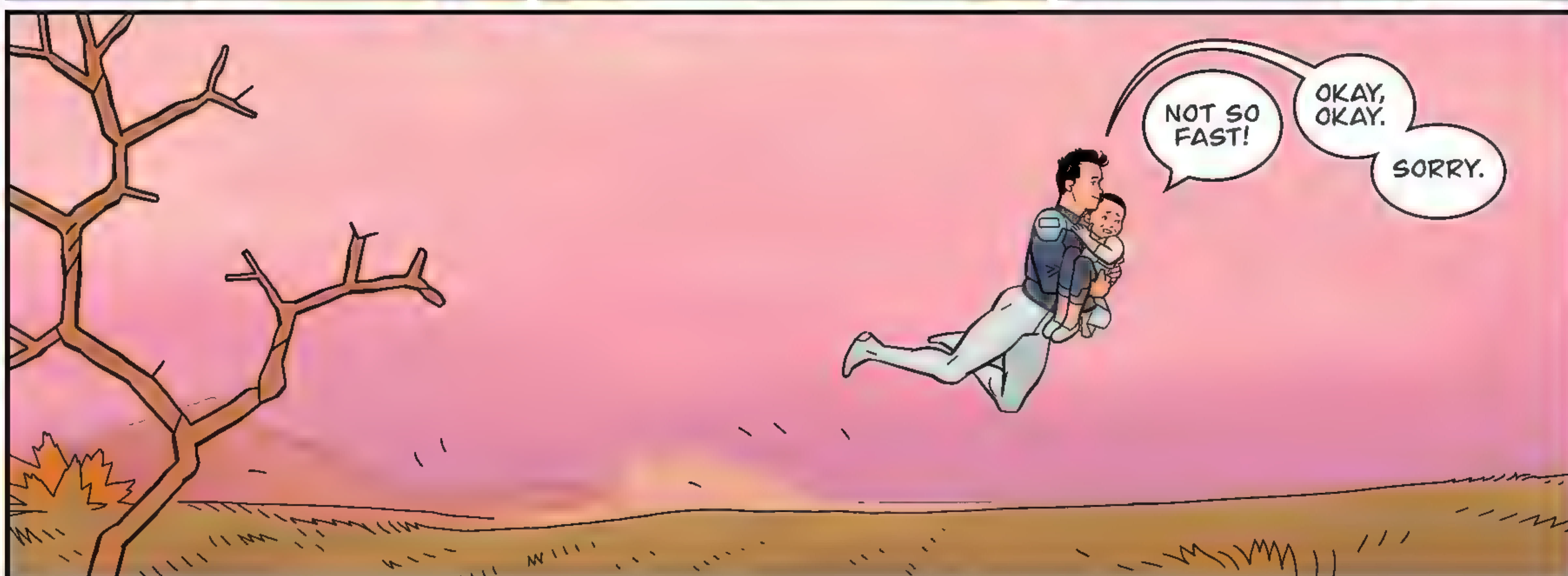
NO
MORE
FLYING.



NO!
I WANT
TO FLY! BUT
STAY DOWN
LOW.



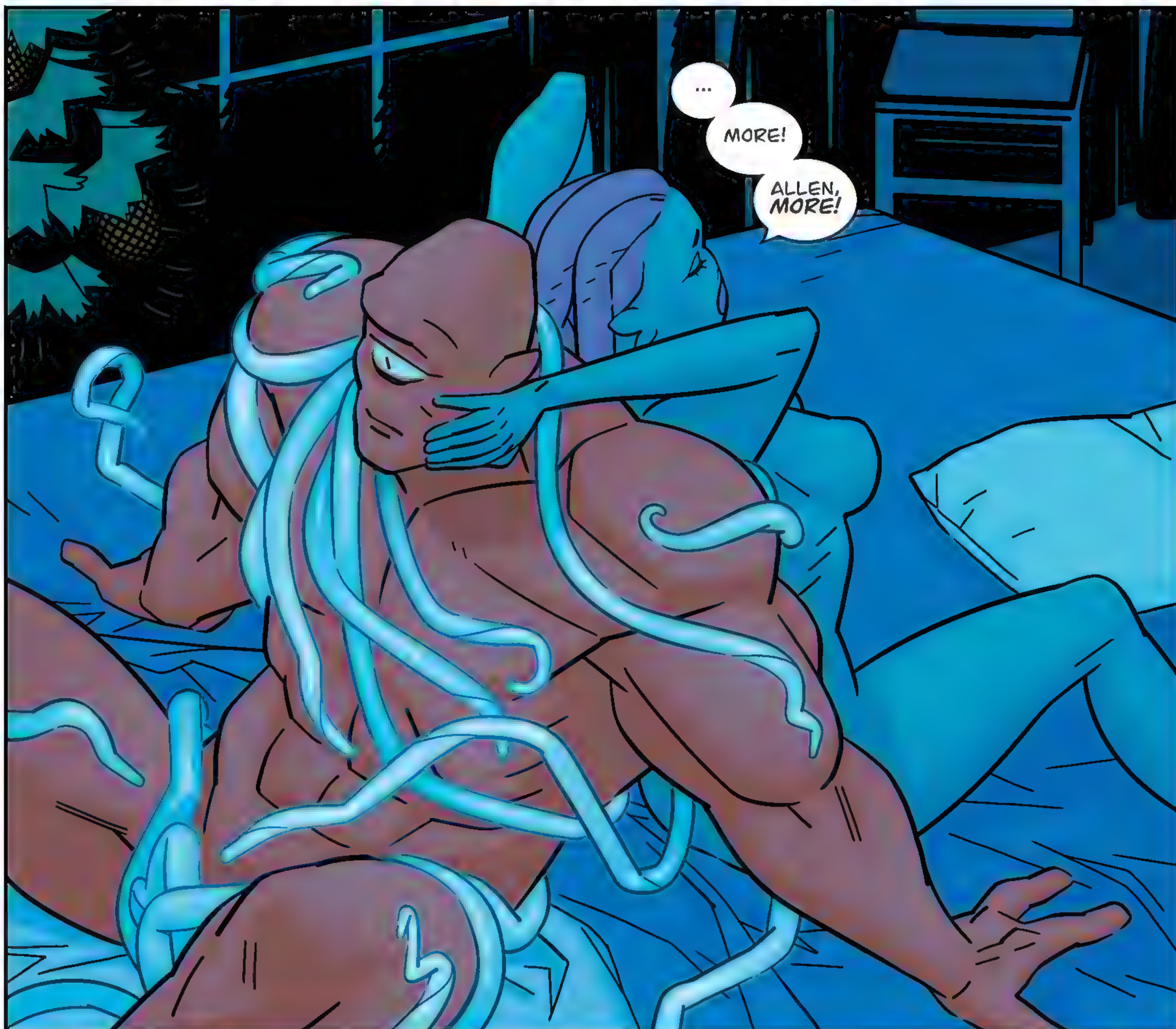
I CAN
DO THAT.



NOT SO
FAST!

OKAY,
OKAY.

SORRY.





TELIA, I'M SORRY!

TOO LATE, NOW!



I'M SORRY, BABE. I WAS TRYING TO FOCUS, I JUST HAVE SO MUCH GOING ON AT WORK.



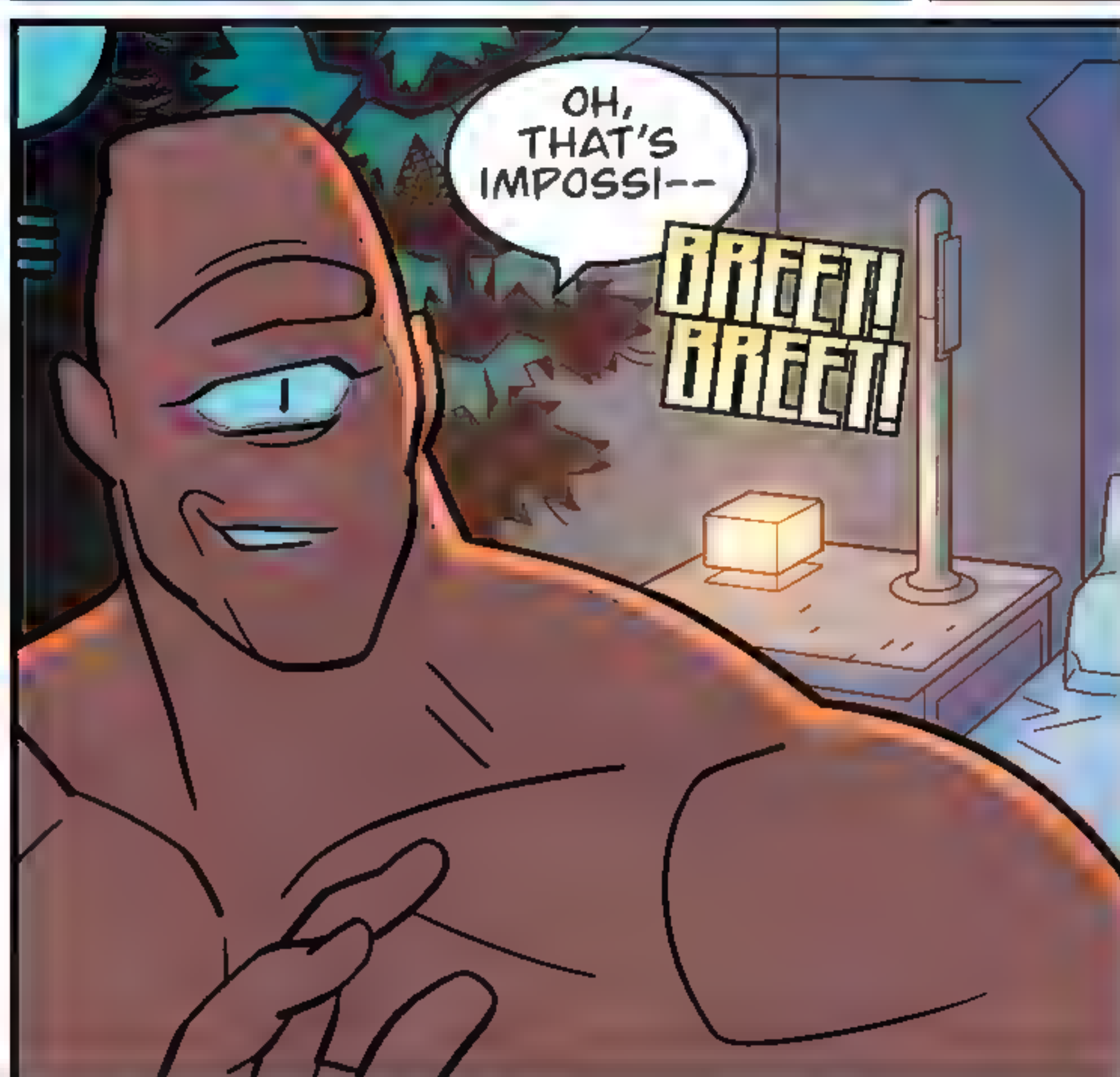
I KNOW, I KNOW. EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT THRAGG AND HIS ROGUE VILTRUMITES. THE ATTACK ON KRALL IS ALL OVER THE NEWS.

THANKS FOR BEING UNDERSTANDING...



I'M NOT UNDERSTANDING CRAP! GET BACK IN BED AND GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME!

IF I CAN'T GET YOUR MIND OFF THIS NONSENSE, I'VE REALLY LOST MY TOUCH!



OH, THAT'S IMPOSSI--

BREET!
BREET!



THEY'RE CALLING AN EMERGENCY SESSION! THERE MUST HAVE BEEN ANOTHER ATTACK!

HANDLE IT QUICKLY AND GET BACK HERE!

YOU OWE ME!



CAN I HAVE THE BLUE?

USING IT.

OKAY... GREEN, THEN.



USING IT.



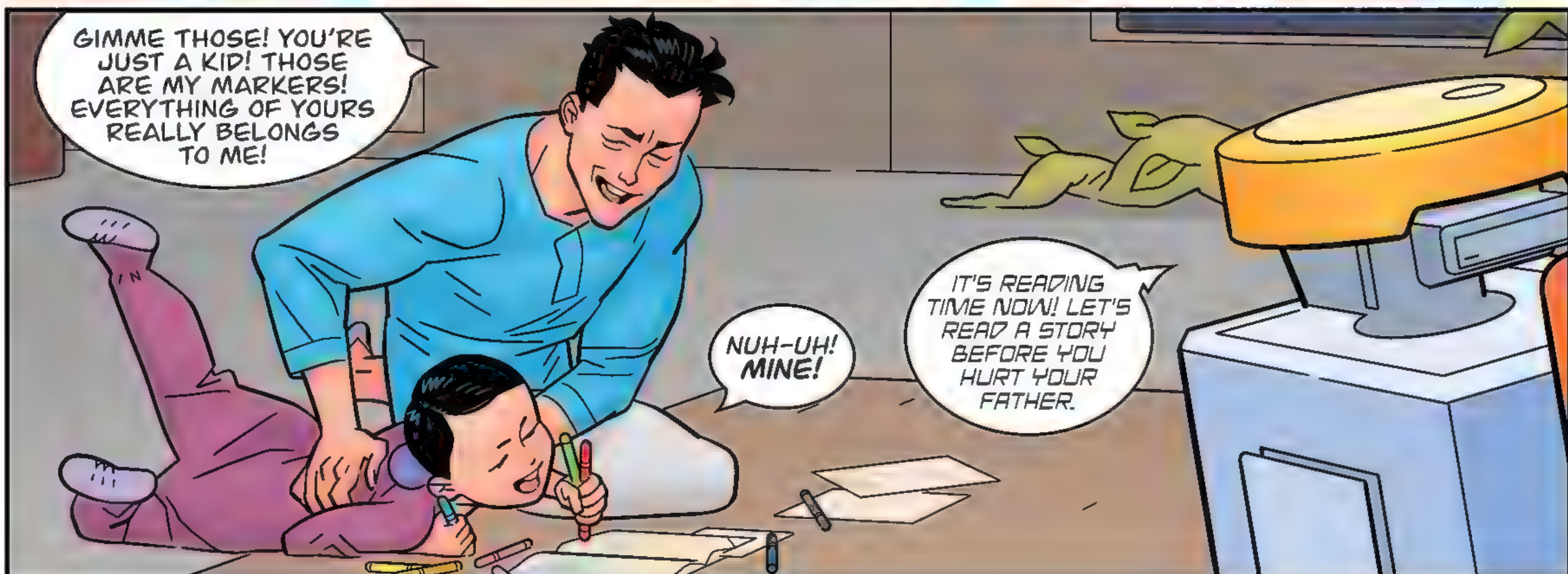
RED?



YOU'RE GOING TO SAY YOU'RE USING THAT, TOO, AREN'T YOU?!



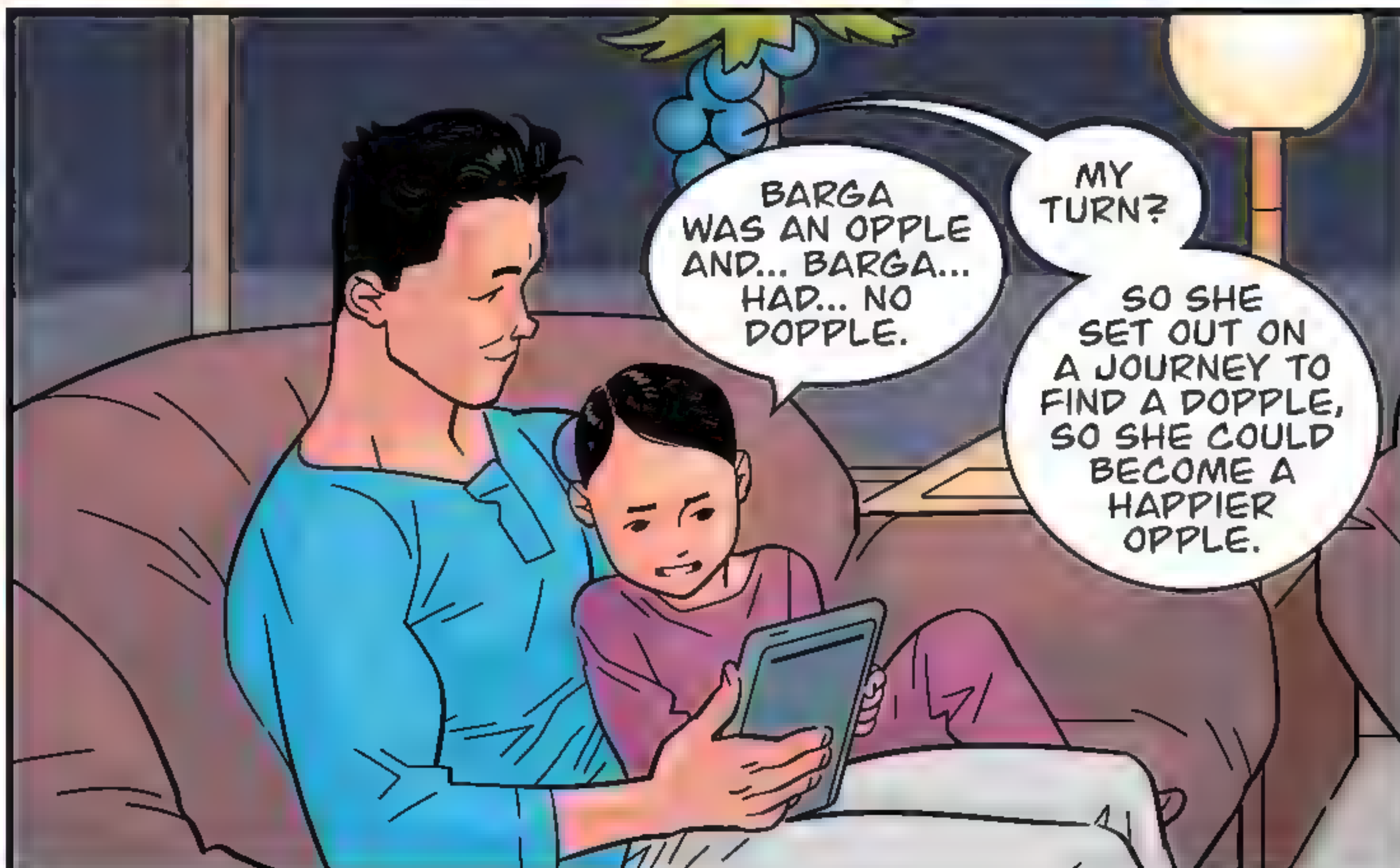
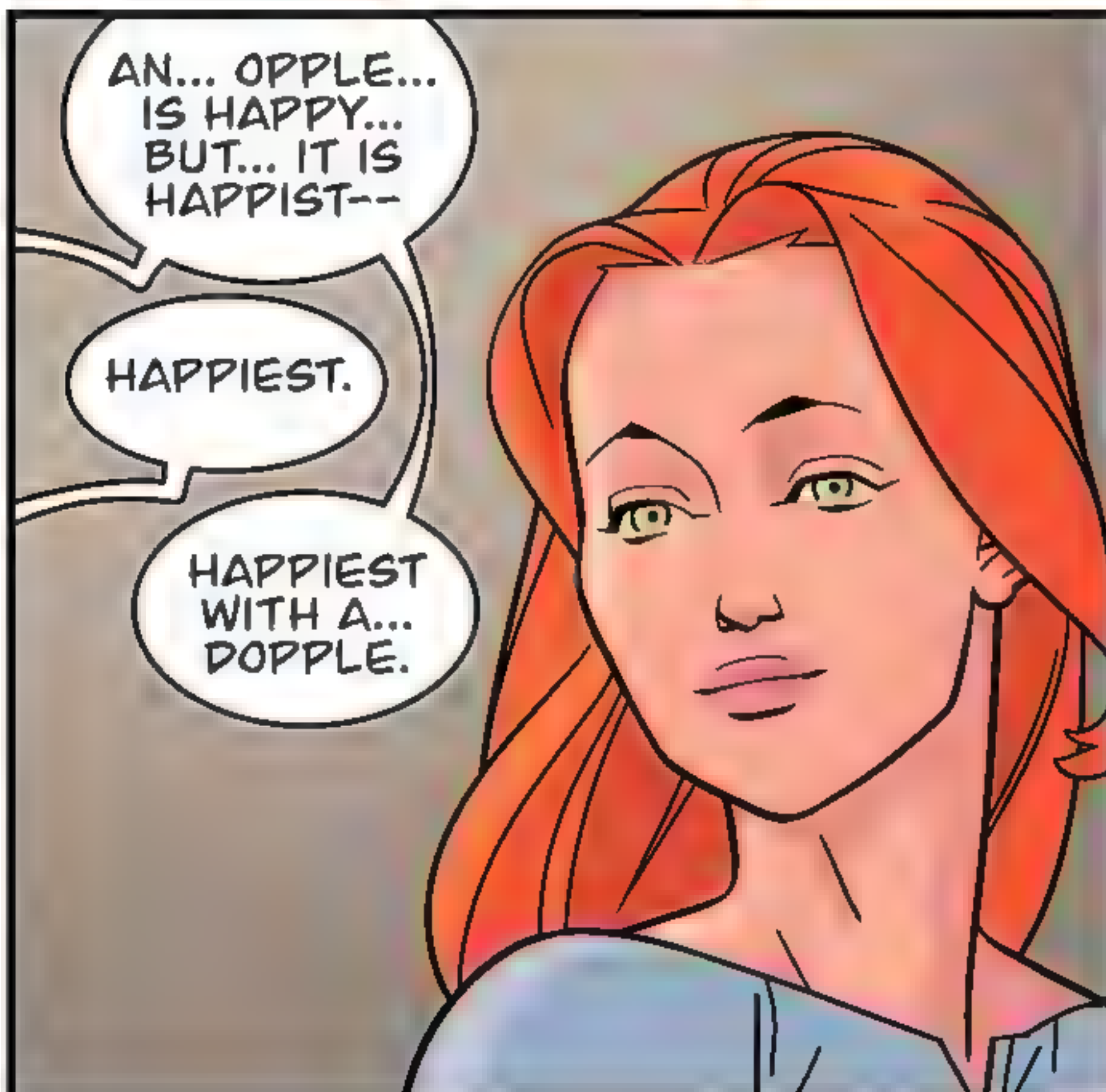
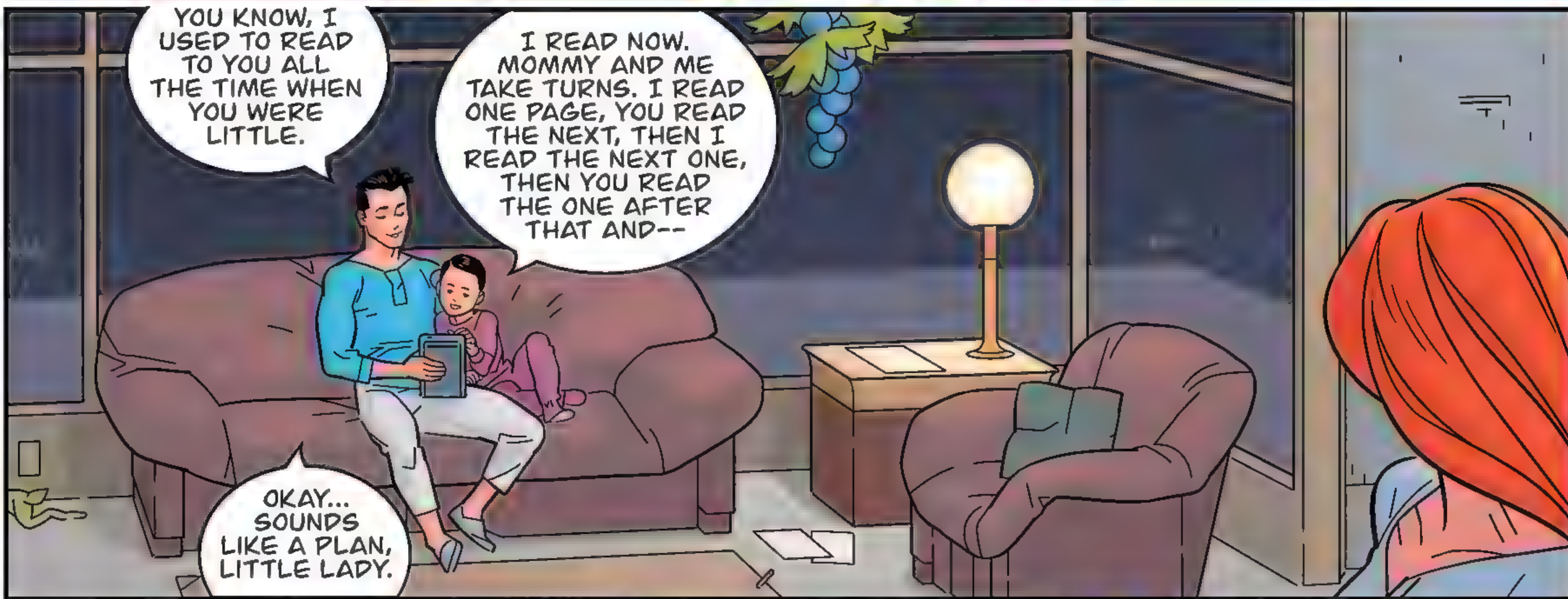
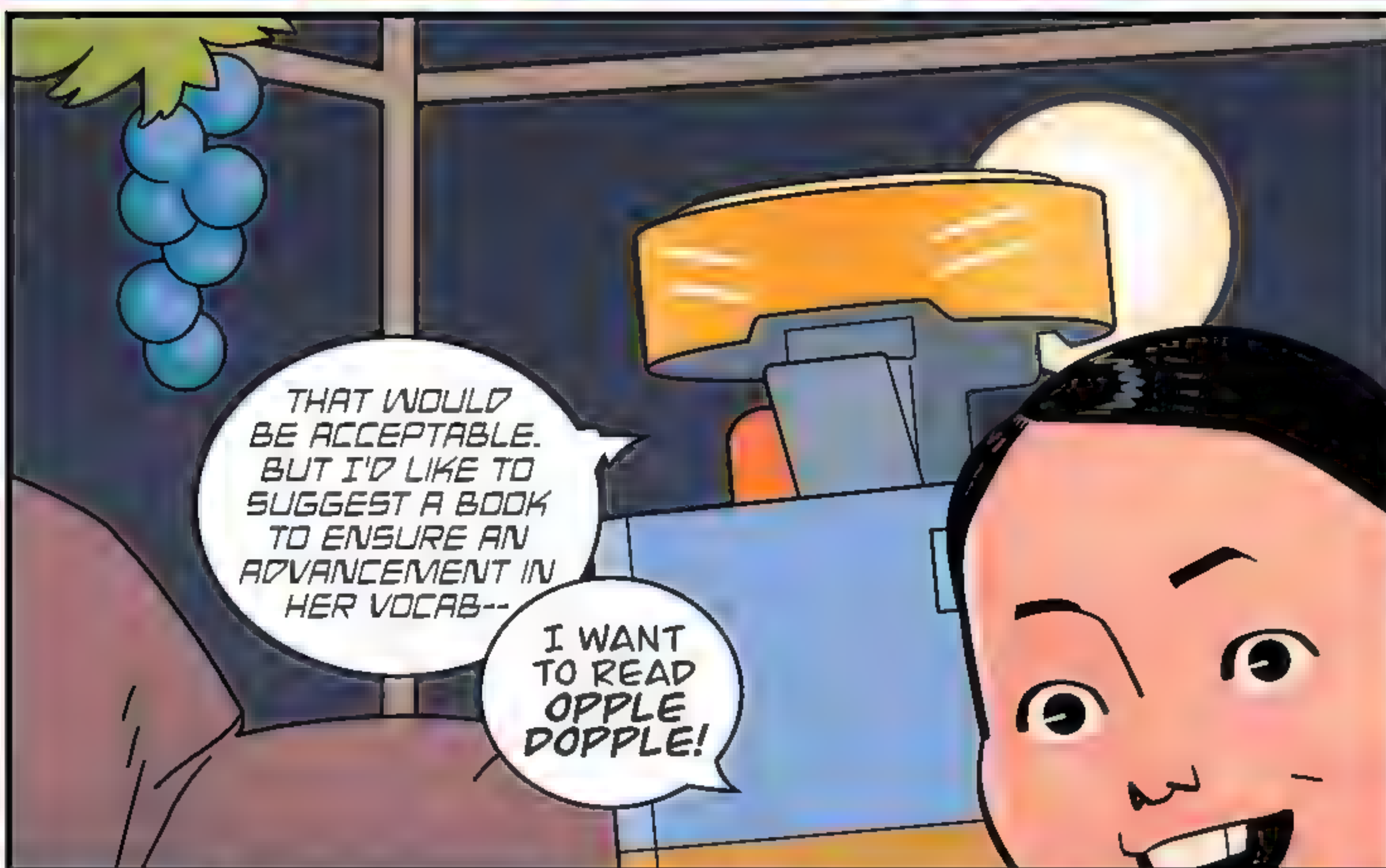
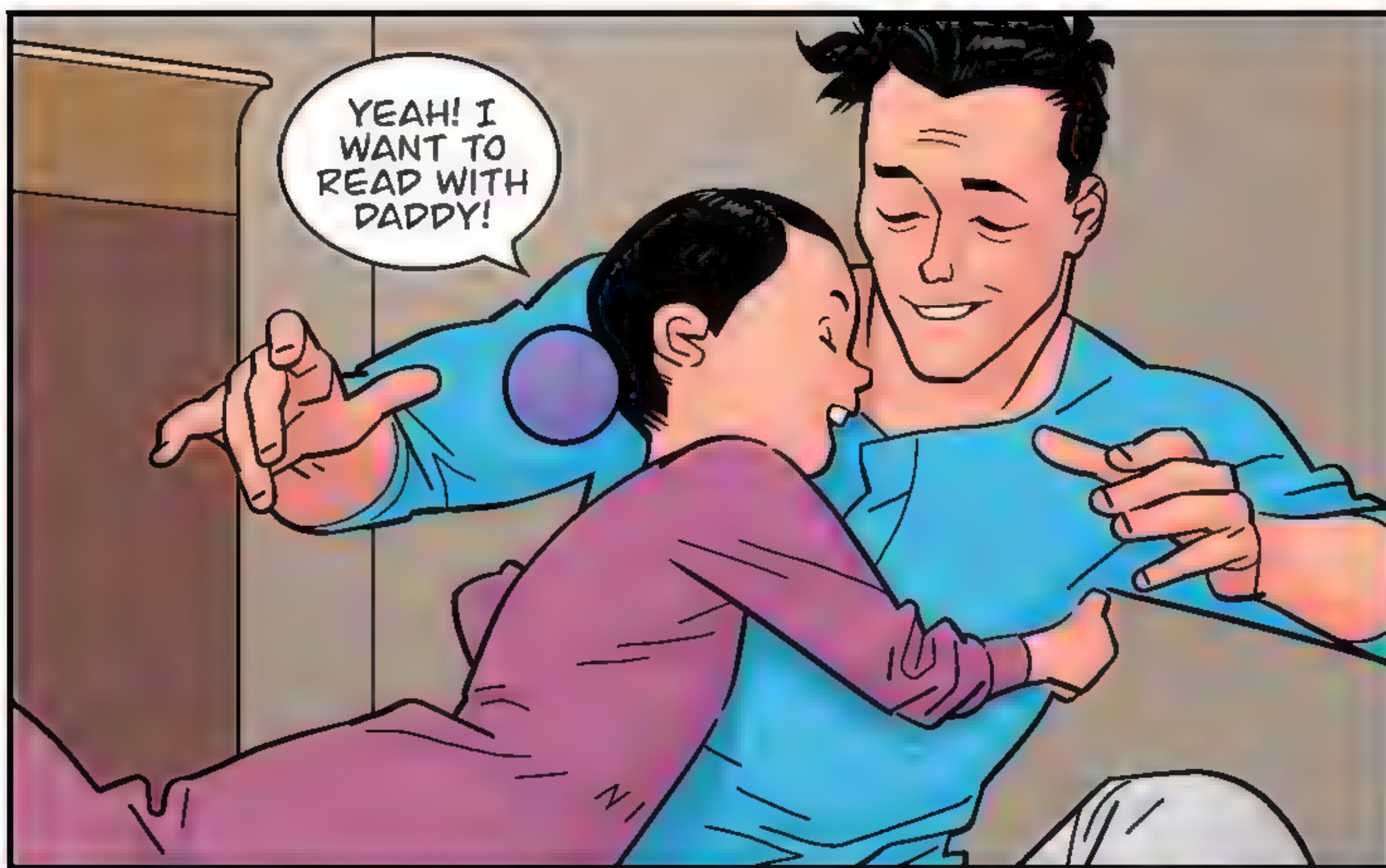
I AM!
NO MARKERS FOR YOU, DADDY!

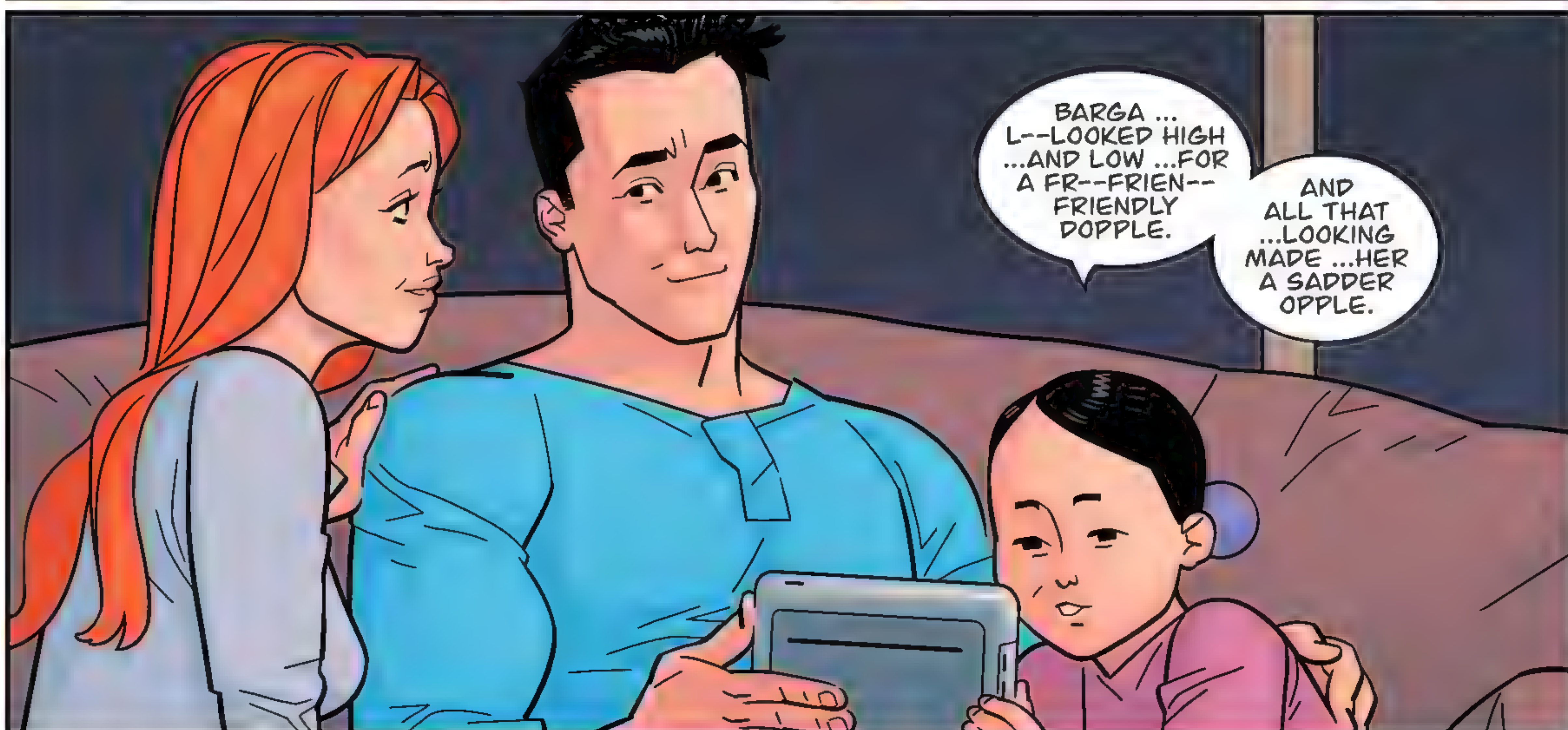
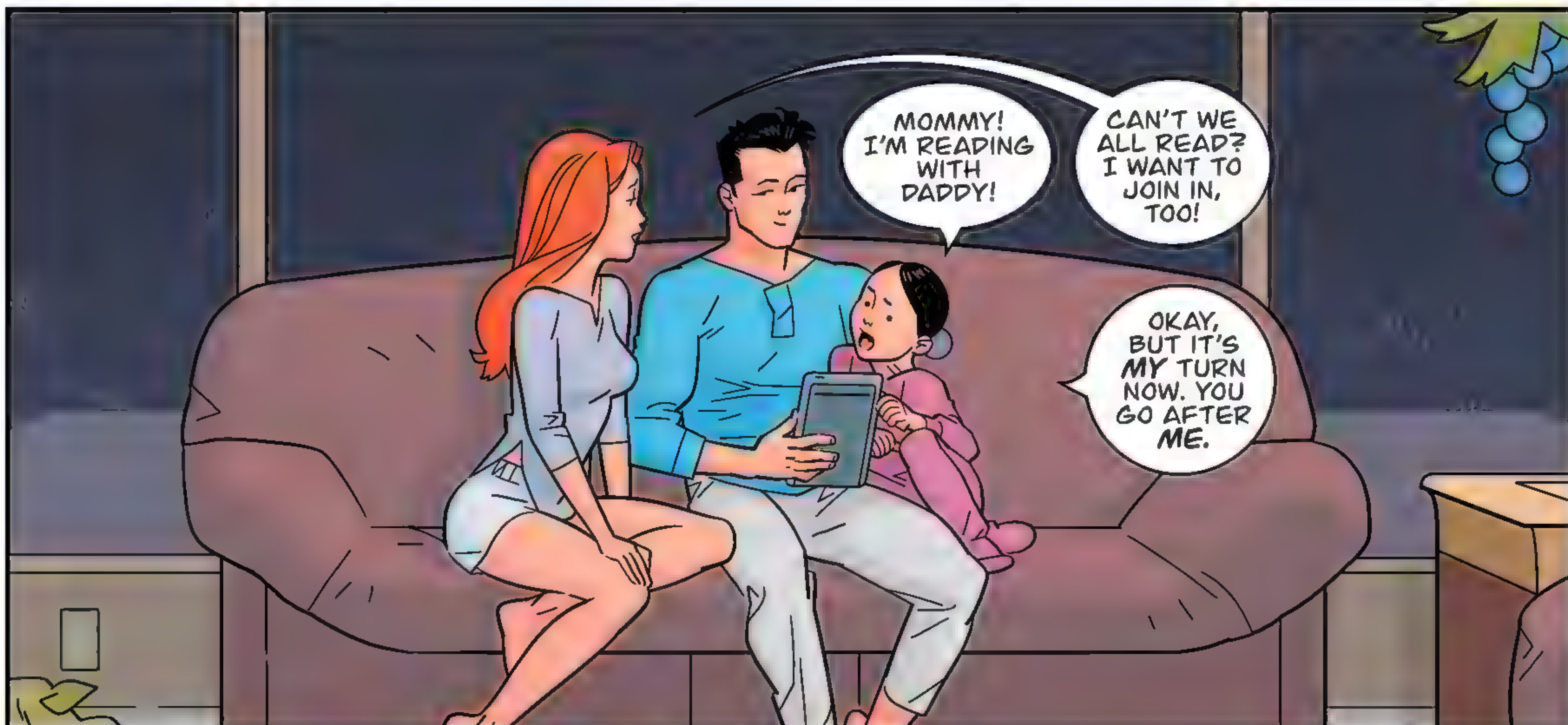


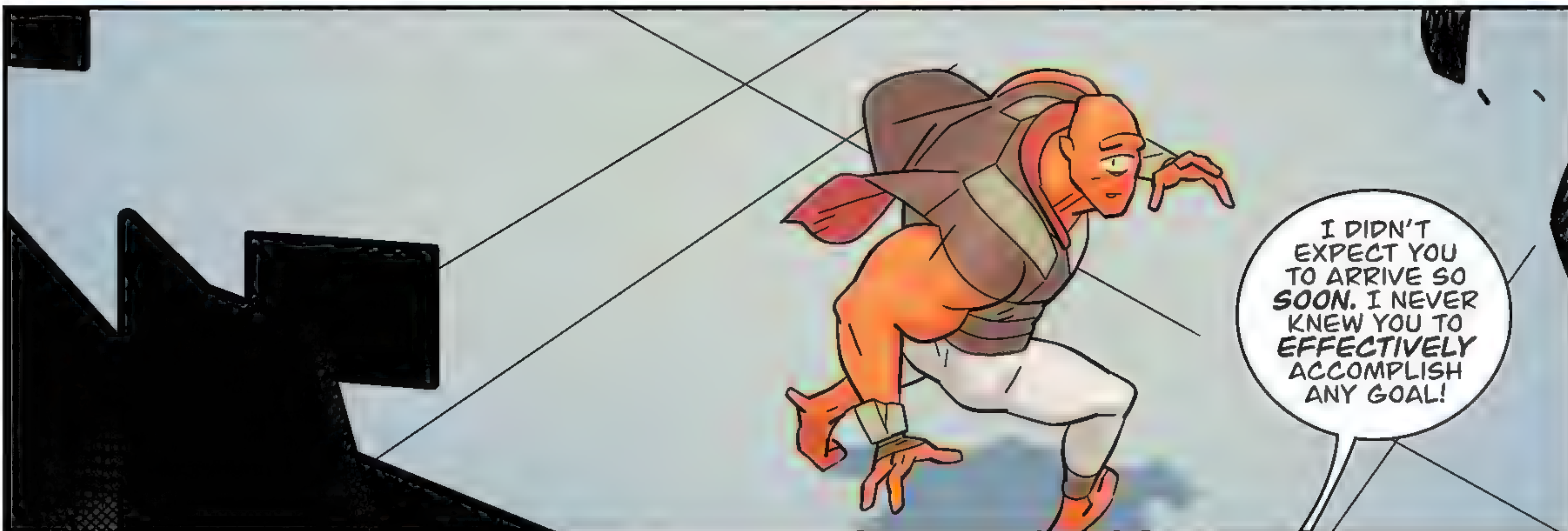
GIMME THOSE! YOU'RE JUST A KID! THOSE ARE MY MARKERS! EVERYTHING OF YOURS REALLY BELONGS TO ME!

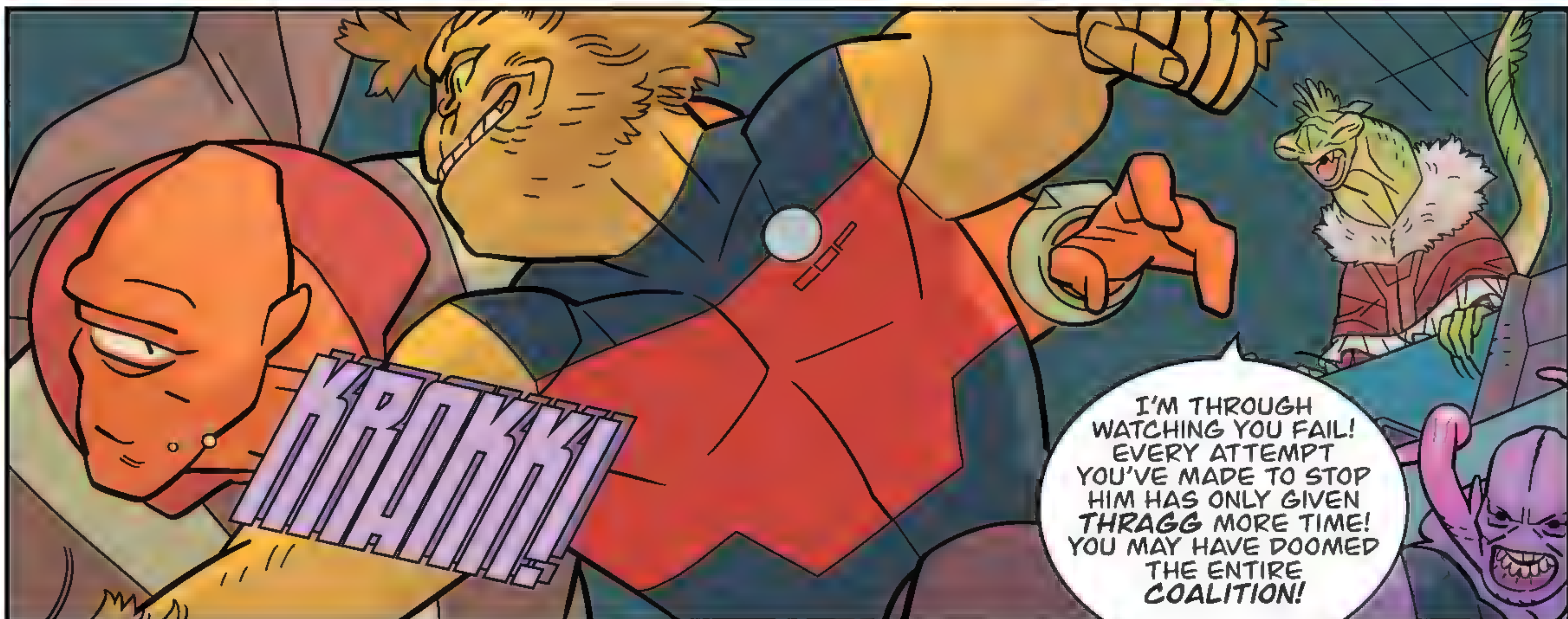
NUH-UH! MINE!

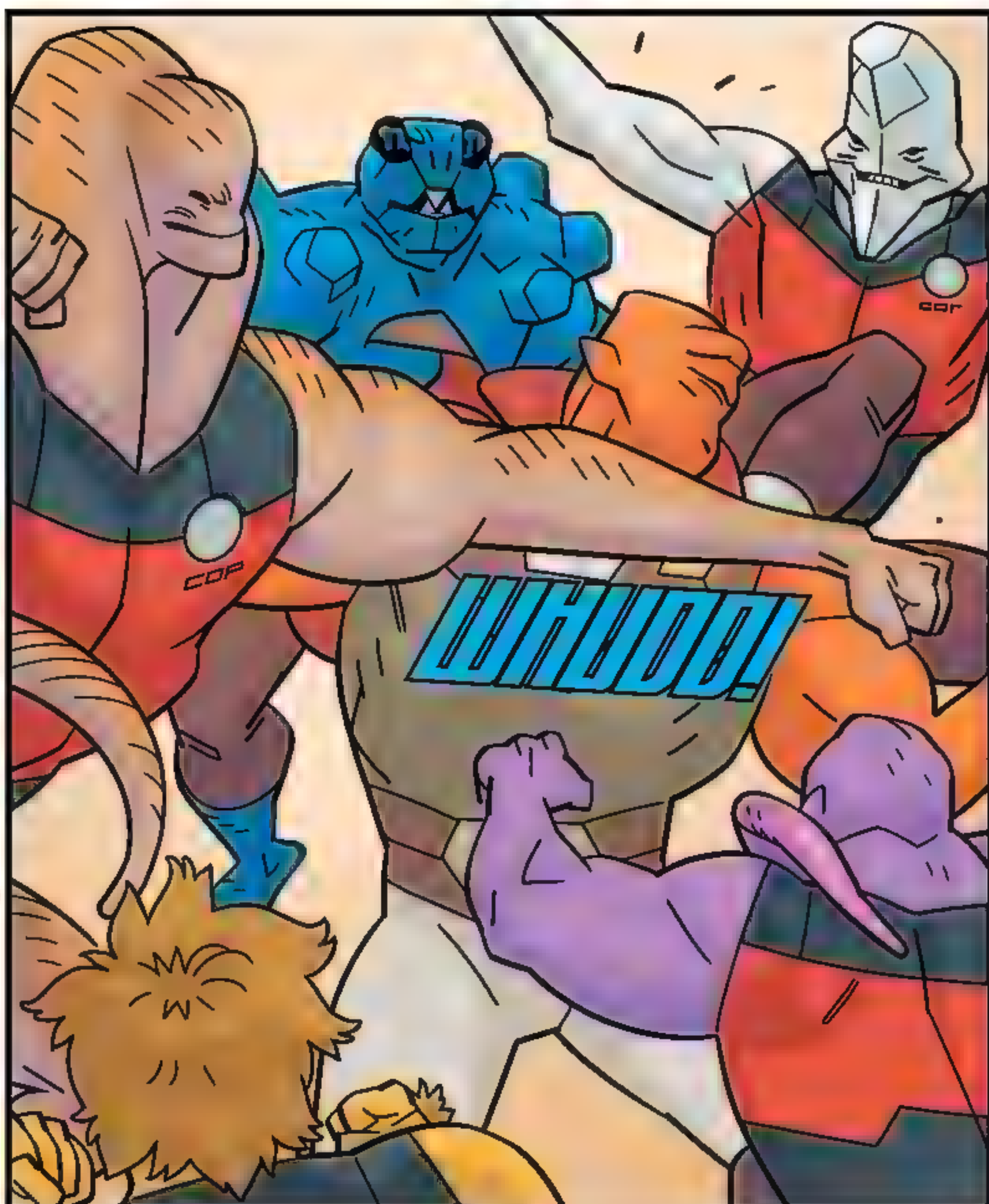
IT'S READING TIME NOW! LET'S READ A STORY BEFORE YOU HURT YOUR FATHER.











IF YOU'D LISTENED TO MY PROPOSAL FIVE YEARS AGO, WE'D HAVE OUR OWN VILTRUMITE HYBRID ARMY! INSTEAD YOU LET THRAGG GROW STRONGER AND STRONGER!

NOW HE'S STRIKING AGAINST US-- REBUILDING THE VILTRUM EMPIRE! YOU TOOK OVER AFTER THAEDUS' EFFORTS LED TO THEIR EMPIRE'S FALL, AND YOU'VE ONLY SUCCEEDED IN UNDOING HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

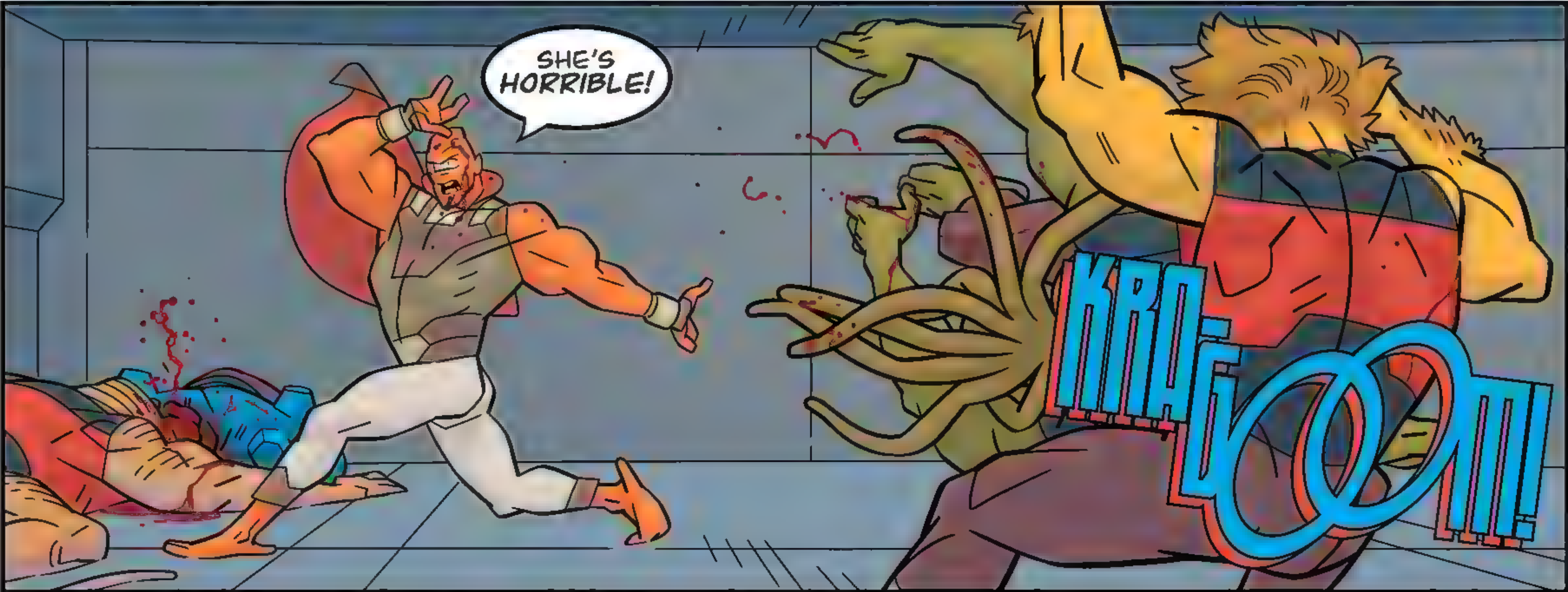
YOU HAVE PROVEN YOU ARE NOT THE ONE TO LEAD US NOW!



SO YOU'RE GOING TO KILL ME?!



YOU GAVE ME NO CHOICE!





YOU THINK I'M SOME KIND OF BARBARIAN? LIKE I'M GOING TO BEAT YOU UP OR KILL YOU FOR TRYING TO KILL ME?!

I'M ABOVE THAT.

I'M GOING TO TAKE AWAY YOUR SEAT IN THE COUNCIL AND BANISH YOU FROM THE PLANET. I WOULDN'T ROB MYSELF OF SEEING YOU DISGRACED!

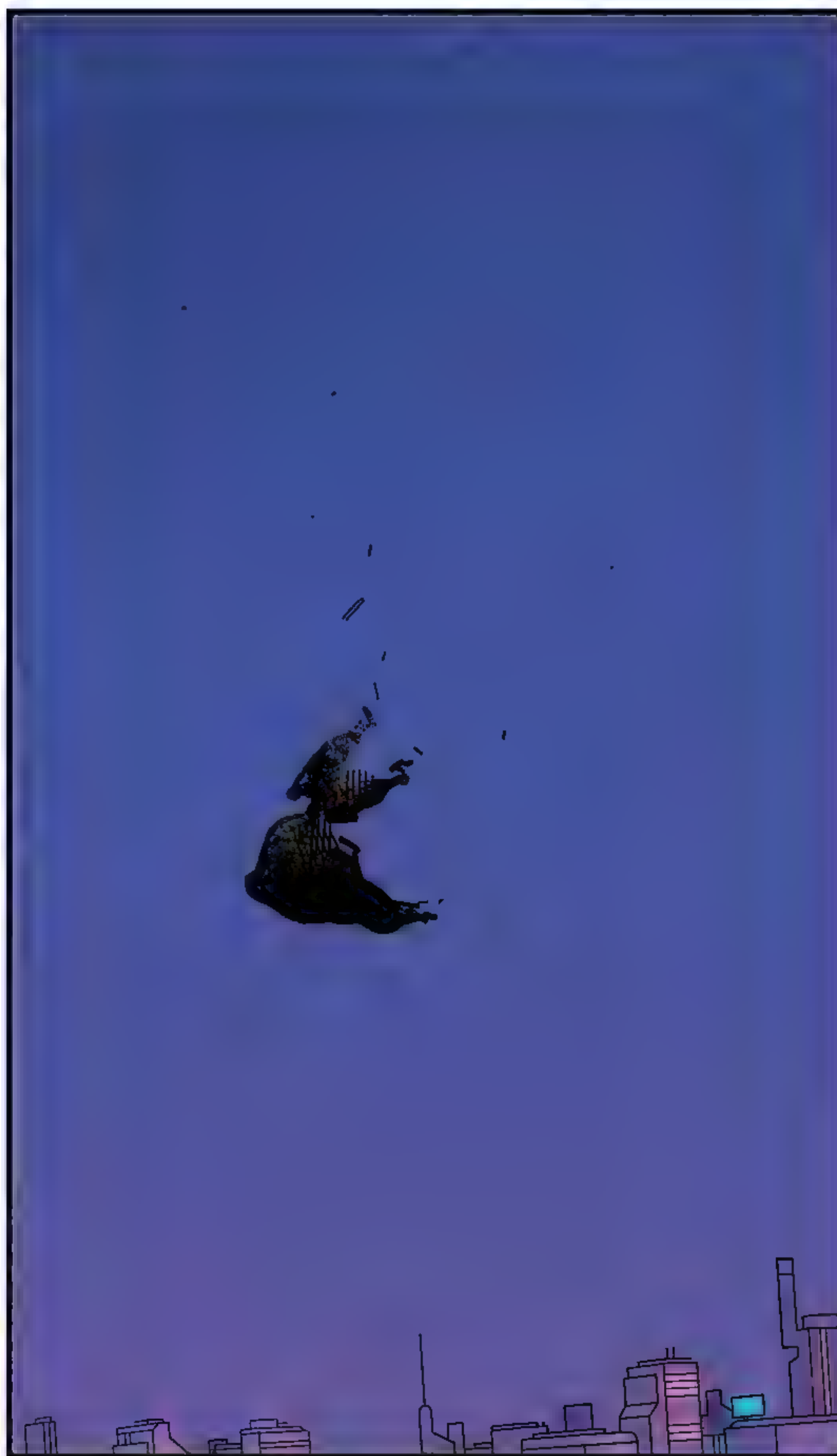
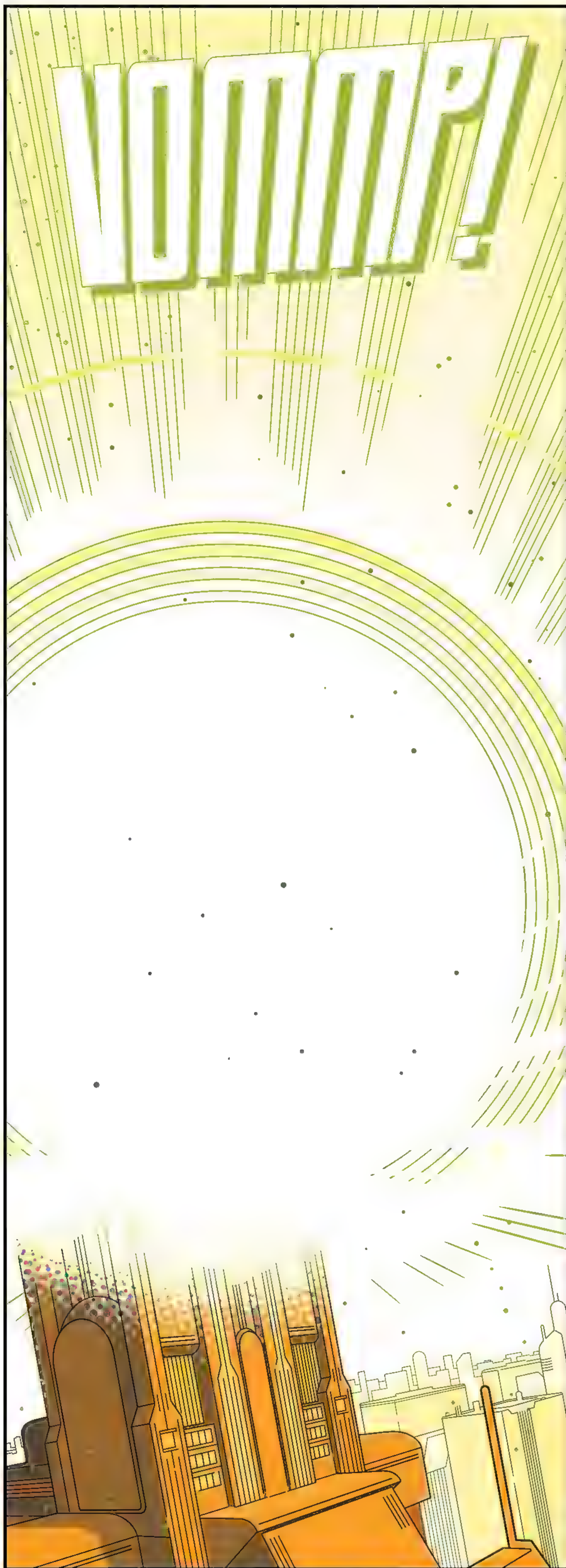


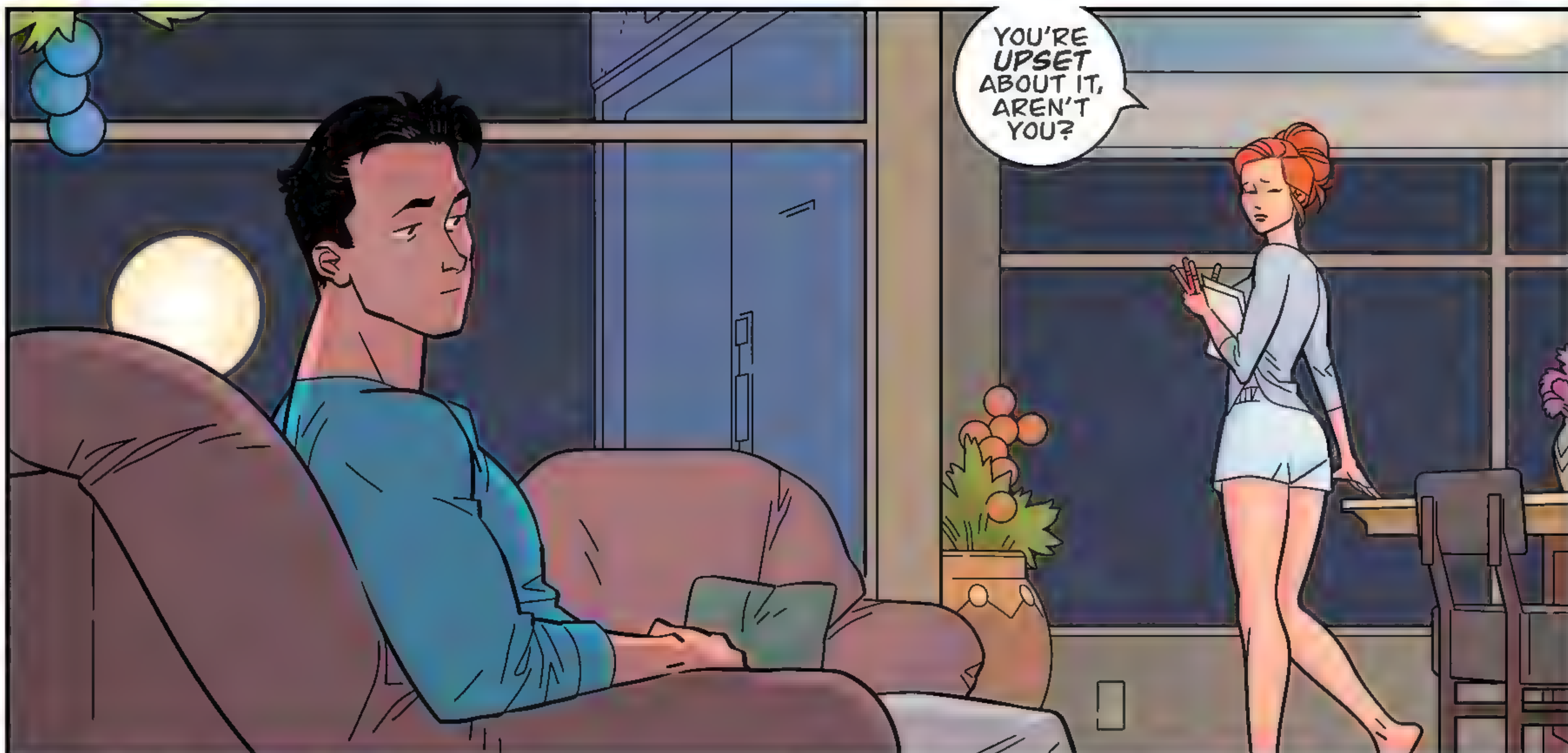
DISGRACED?!

YOU THINK I DIDN'T PREPARE FOR THIS?! I'M READY TO DIE SO THAT COUNTLESS OTHERS MAY LIVE UNDER A BETTER LEADER!

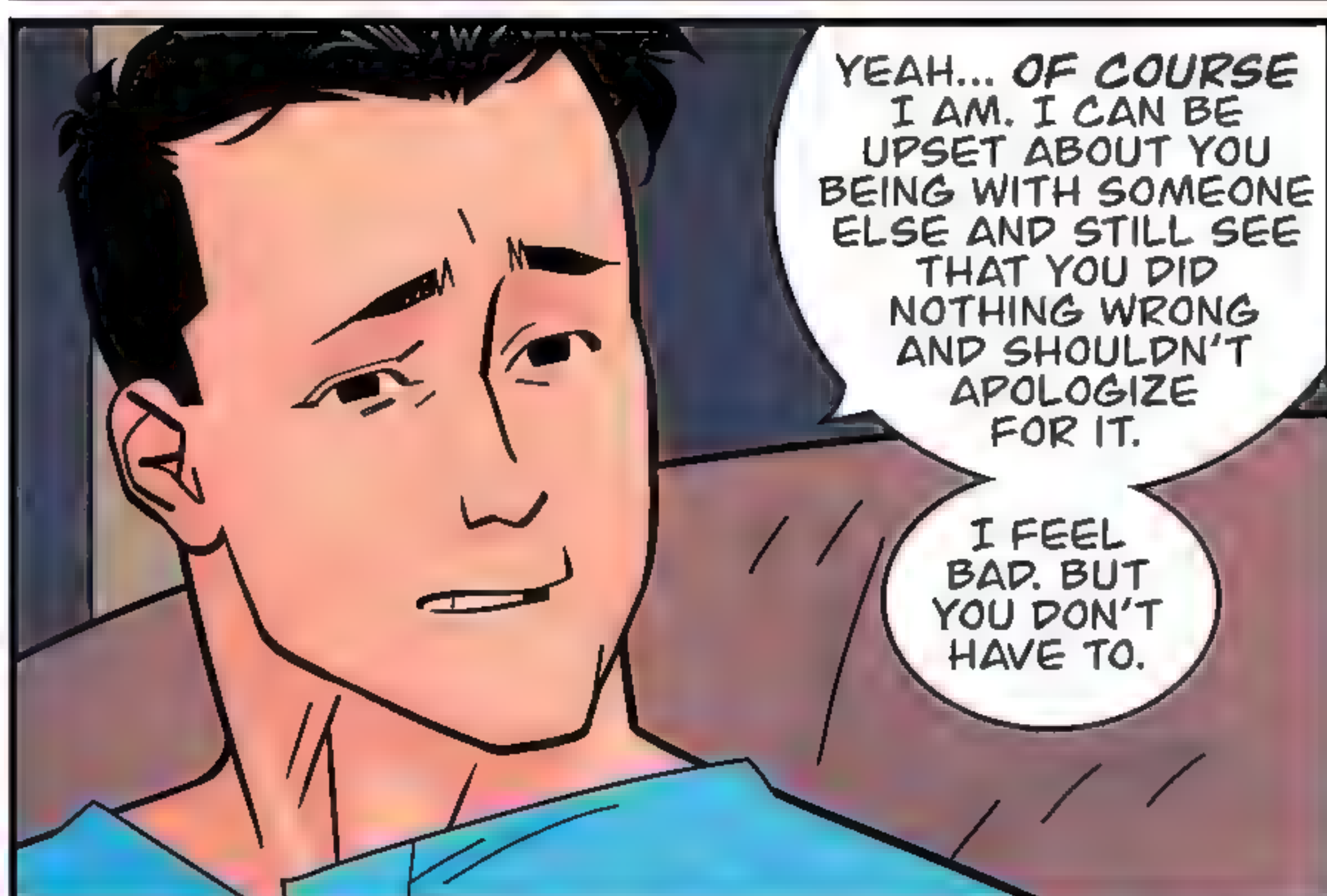
OH--





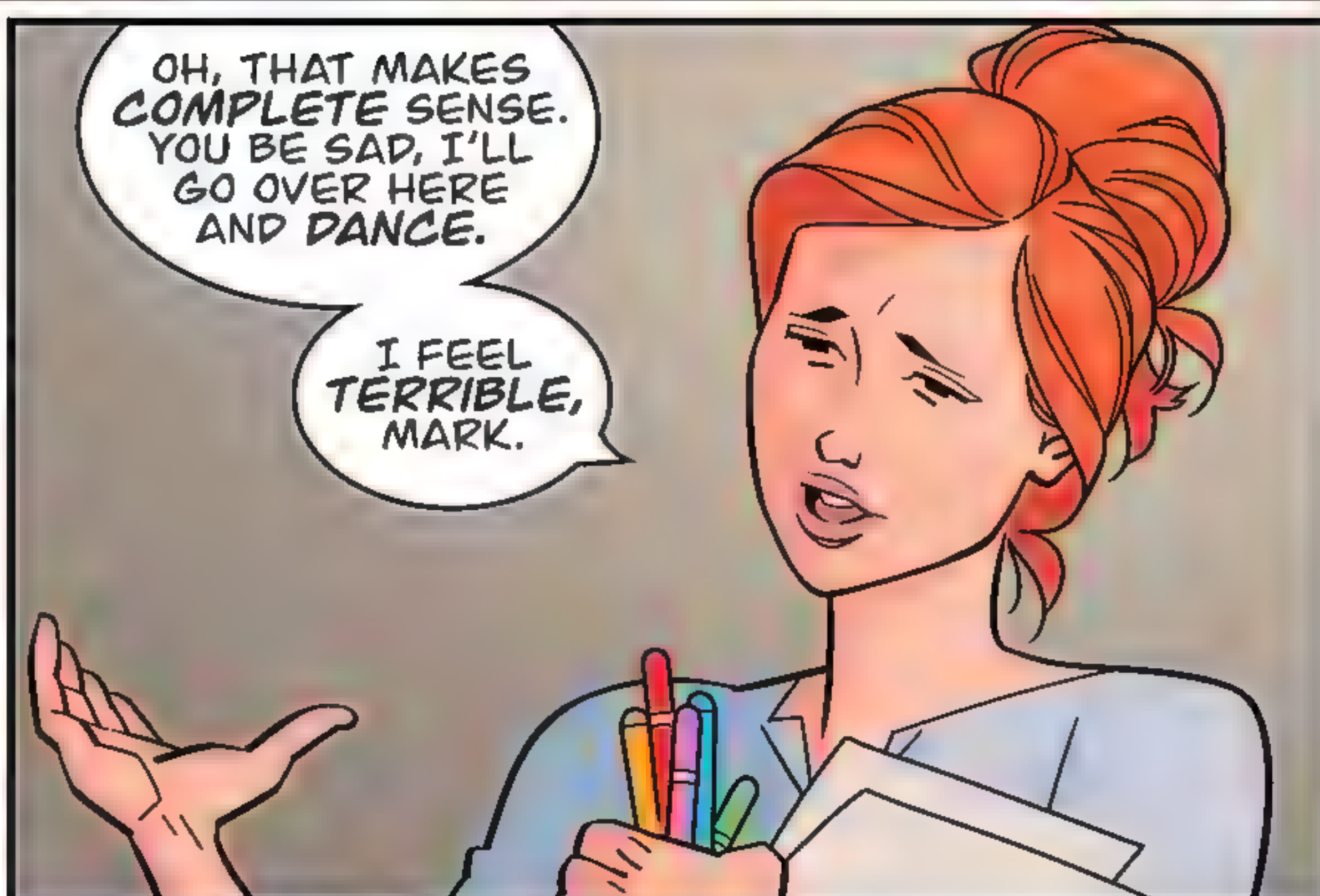


YOU'RE UPSET ABOUT IT, AREN'T YOU?



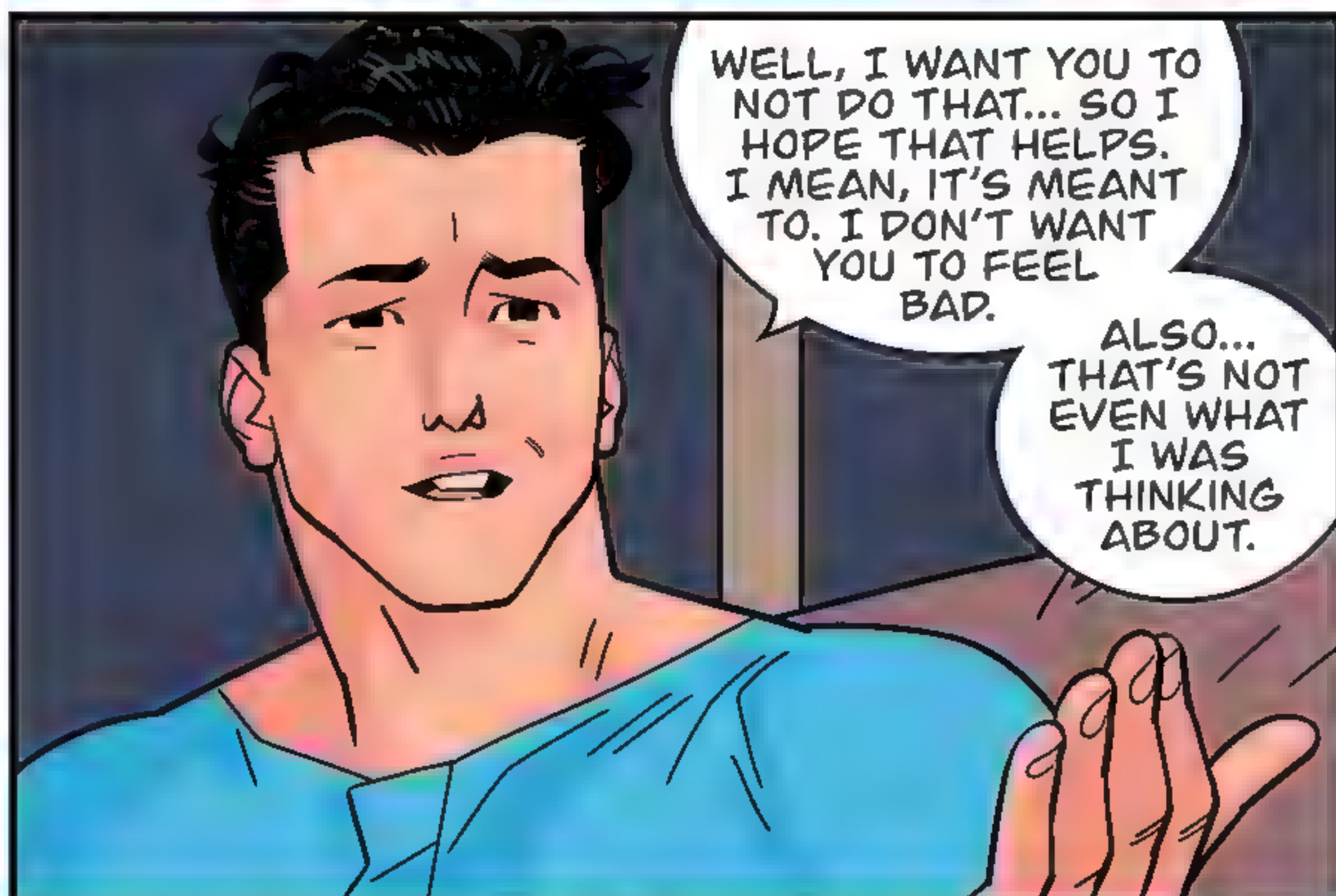
YEAH... OF COURSE I AM. I CAN BE UPSET ABOUT YOU BEING WITH SOMEONE ELSE AND STILL SEE THAT YOU DID NOTHING WRONG AND SHOULDN'T APOLOGIZE FOR IT.

I FEEL BAD. BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO.



OH, THAT MAKES COMPLETE SENSE. YOU BE SAD, I'LL GO OVER HERE AND DANCE.

I FEEL TERRIBLE, MARK.



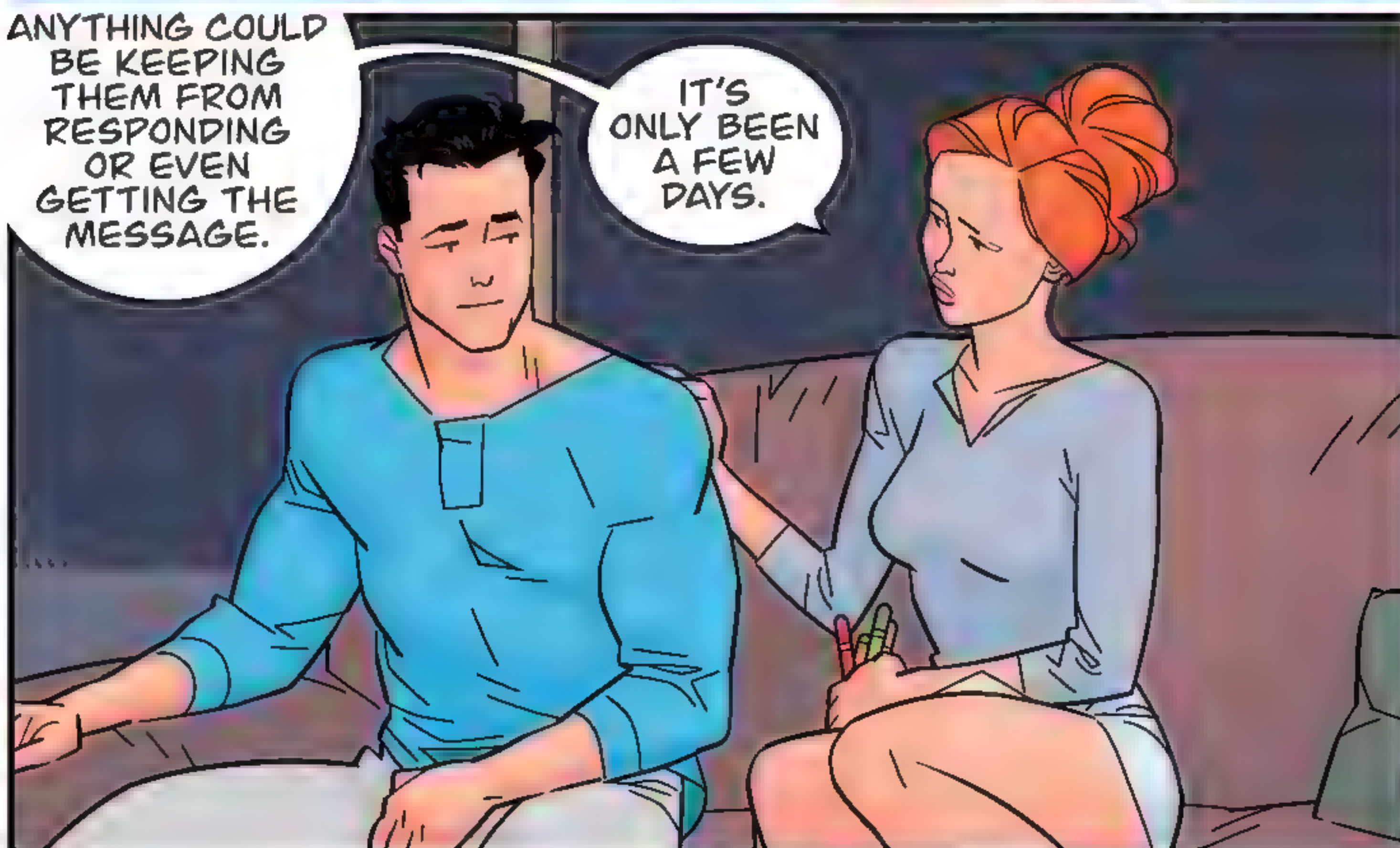
WELL, I WANT YOU TO NOT DO THAT... SO I HOPE THAT HELPS. I MEAN, IT'S MEANT TO. I DON'T WANT YOU TO FEEL BAD.

ALSO... THAT'S NOT EVEN WHAT I WAS THINKING ABOUT.



WE HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM EARTH SINCE I CAME BACK. I KNOW ALLEN SENT A TRANSMISSION LETTING THEM KNOW I WAS ALIVE.

IT'S WEIRD THAT THEY HAVEN'T CONTACTED US, RIGHT?



ANYTHING COULD BE KEEPING THEM FROM RESPONDING OR EVEN GETTING THE MESSAGE.

IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW DAYS.



YEAH... YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.

I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING.





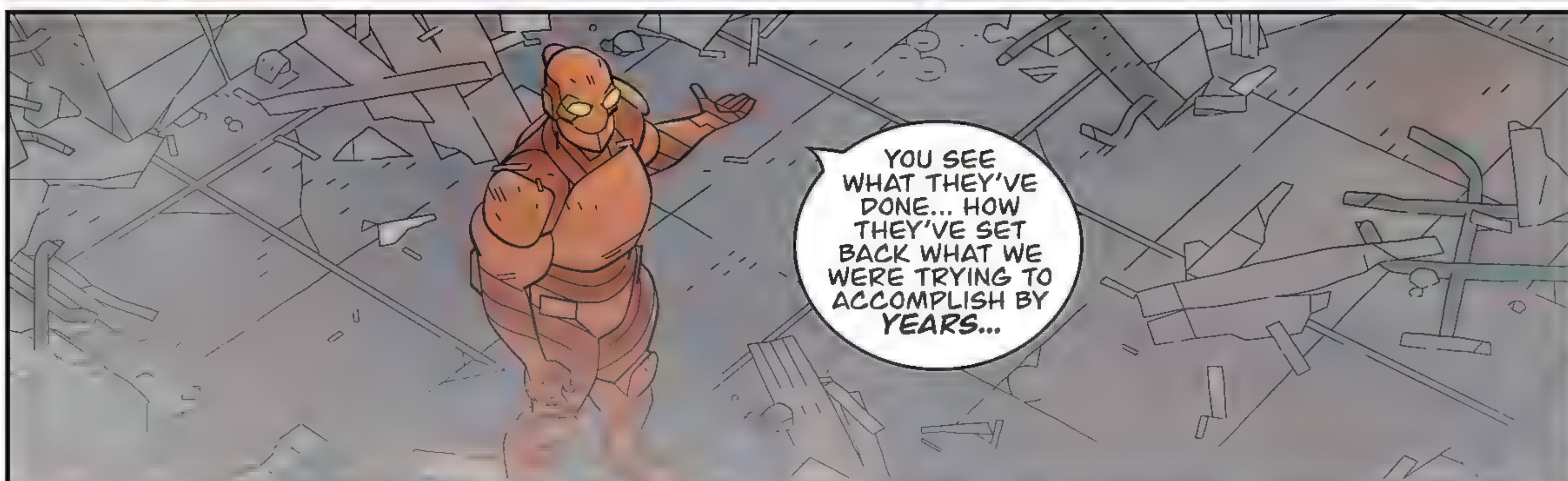
CHAPTER THREE





I KNOW
HOW YOU
FEEL...

...AND I
RESPECT
IT.

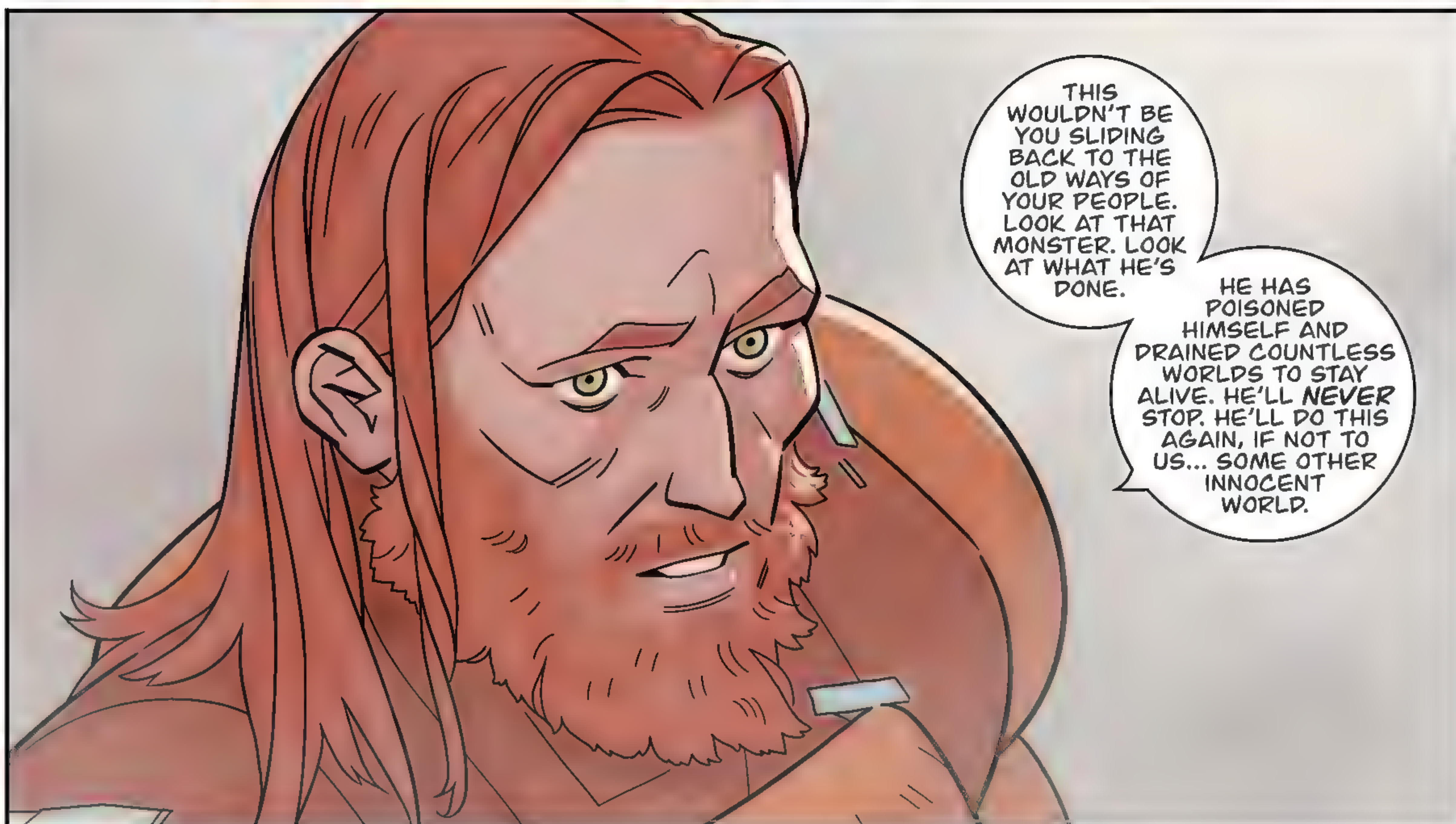


YOU SEE
WHAT THEY'VE
DONE... HOW
THEY'VE SET
BACK WHAT WE
WERE TRYING TO
ACCOMPLISH BY
YEARS...



WORLD
PEACE? IT'LL BE
A **GENERATION**
BEFORE THE
PEOPLE OF THIS
PLANET CAN BELIEVE
IT'S REAL. THIS WAS
A WAR UNLIKE
ANYTHING WE'VE
EVER SEEN.

DO WHAT
YOU KNOW
HAS TO BE
DONE.

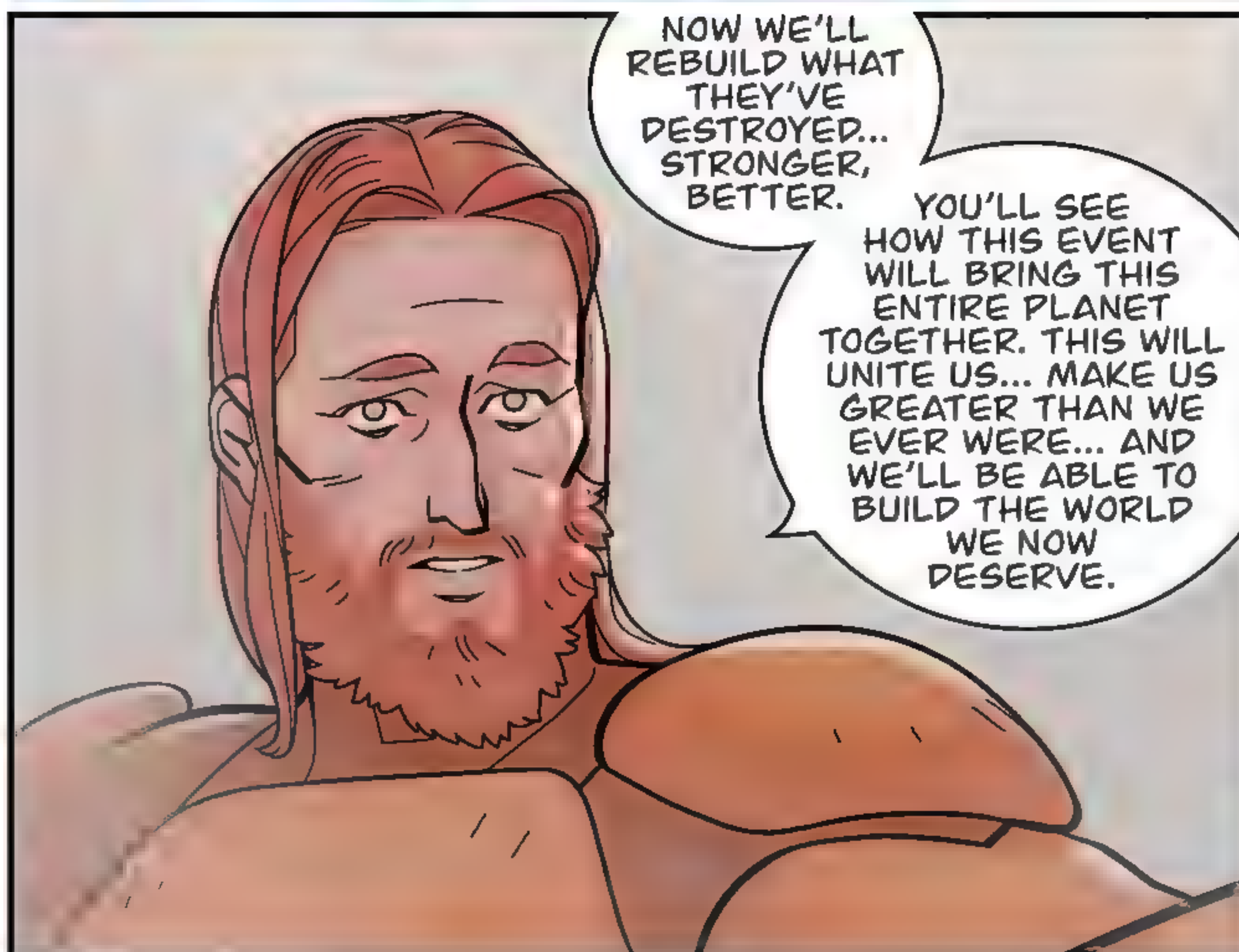
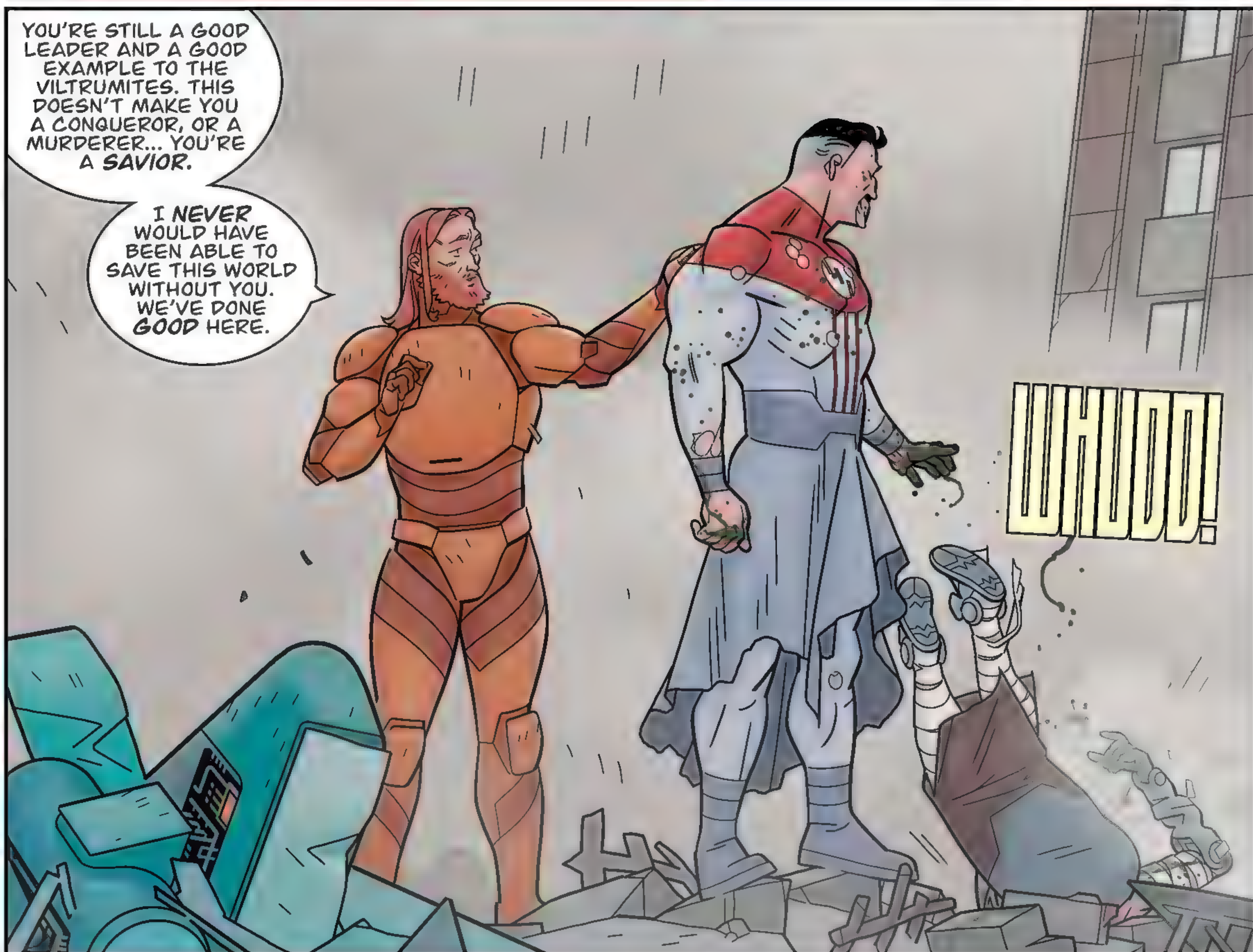
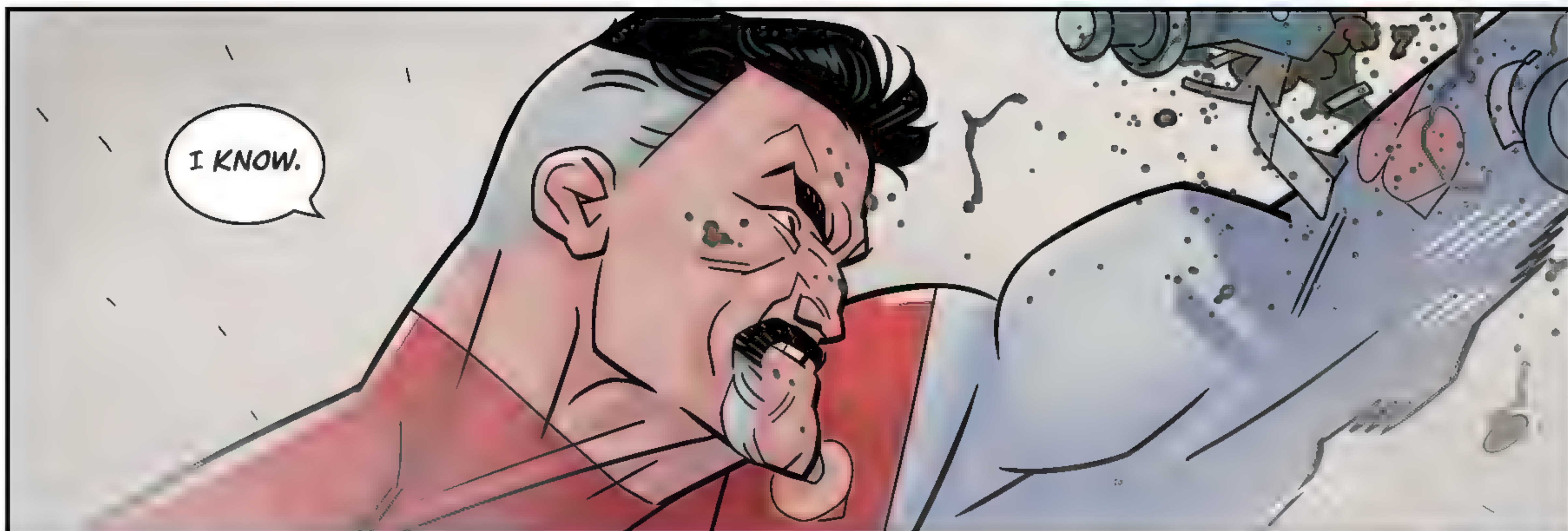


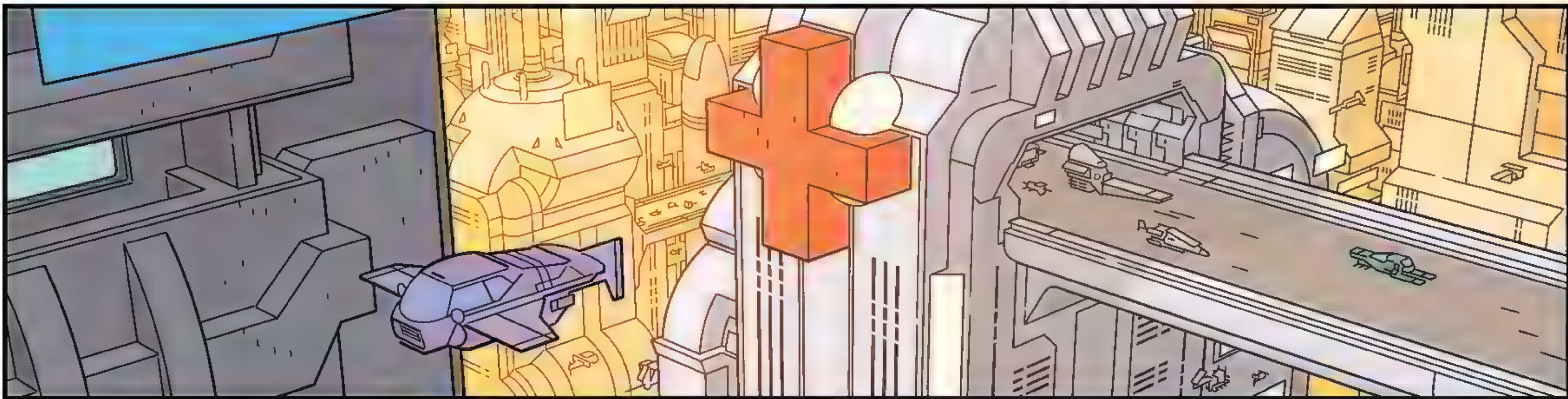
THIS
WOULDN'T BE
YOU SLIDING
BACK TO THE
OLD WAYS OF
YOUR PEOPLE.
LOOK AT THAT
MONSTER. LOOK
AT WHAT HE'S
DONE.

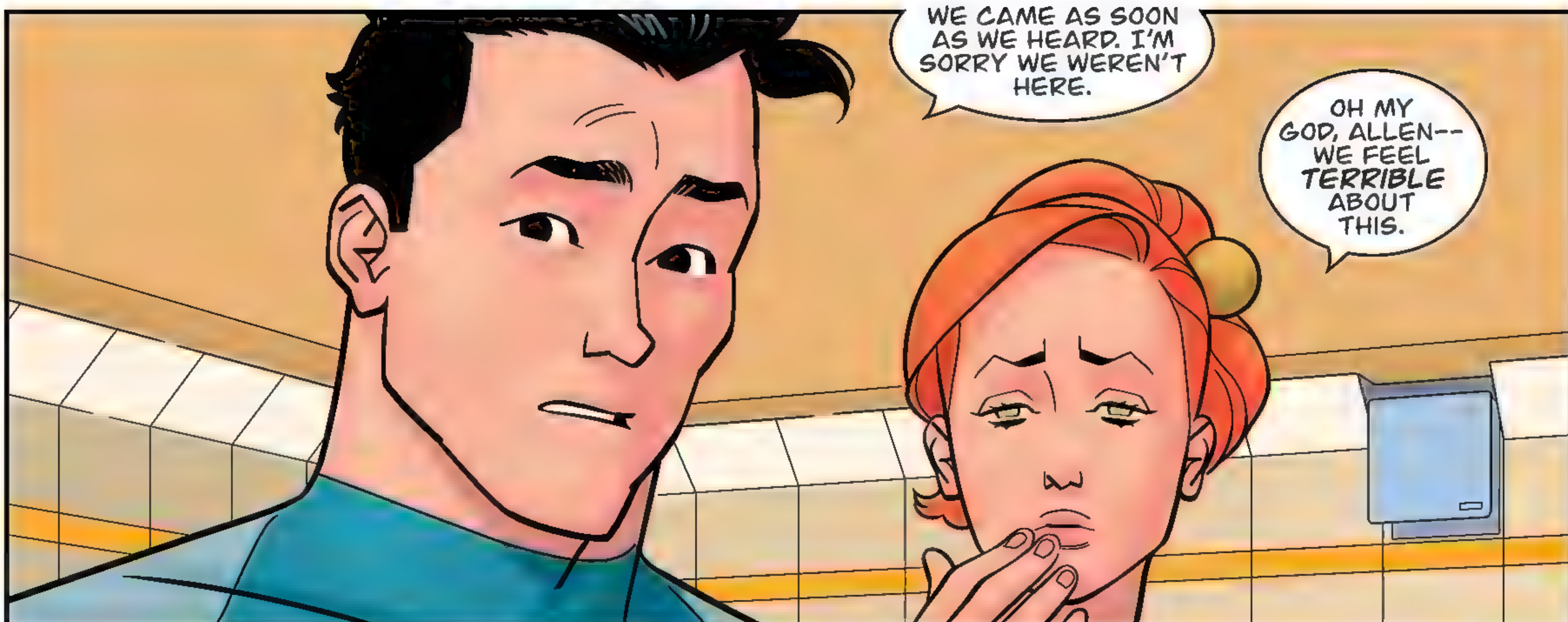
HE HAS
POISONED
HIMSELF AND
DRAINED COUNTLESS
WORLDS TO STAY
ALIVE. HE'LL **NEVER**
STOP. HE'LL DO THIS
AGAIN, IF NOT TO
US... SOME OTHER
INNOCENT
WORLD.



YOU
HAVE
TO KILL
HIM.





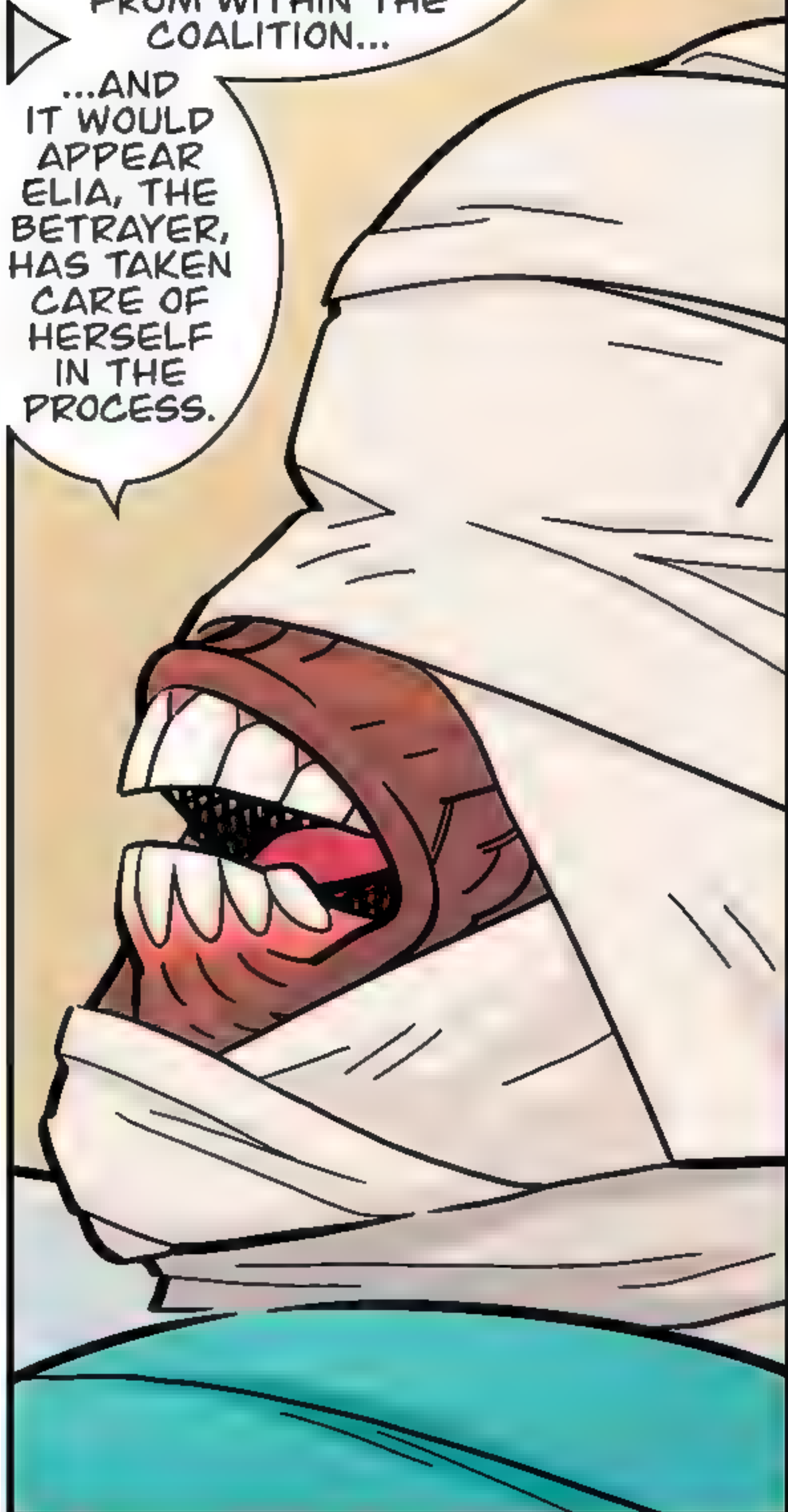


WE CAME AS SOON AS WE HEARD. I'M SORRY WE WEREN'T HERE.

OH MY GOD, ALLEN-- WE FEEL TERRIBLE ABOUT THIS.

DON'T. REALLY. THERE'S NOTHING YOU COULD HAVE DONE TO STOP THIS. I WAS BETRAYED FROM WITHIN THE COALITION...

...AND IT WOULD APPEAR ELIA, THE BETRAYER, HAS TAKEN CARE OF HERSELF IN THE PROCESS.



WAS SHE WORKING FOR THRAGG? DO YOU THINK HE'S MAYBE GOT SOMEONE ELSE WORKING ON THE INSIDE?



NO. HER PLAN WAS TO REPLACE ME WITH SOMEONE WHO COULD TAKE THRAGG DOWN.



HOW'S TELIA TAKING ALL THIS? I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP... I'VE BEEN IN HER POSITION ONCE OR TWICE.

IS SHE HERE?

OH, TELIA RAN OUT TO GET SOMETHING TO EAT WITH--

WE'RE BACK!

...OH CRAP.





OH, HI, EVE.

YEAH, UH... I HAD NO IDEA YOU GUYS WERE HERE.



WE JUST WANTED TO CHECK IN AND SEE HOW ALLEN WAS DOING. WE WERE LEAVING.

WHAT? WE WERE?

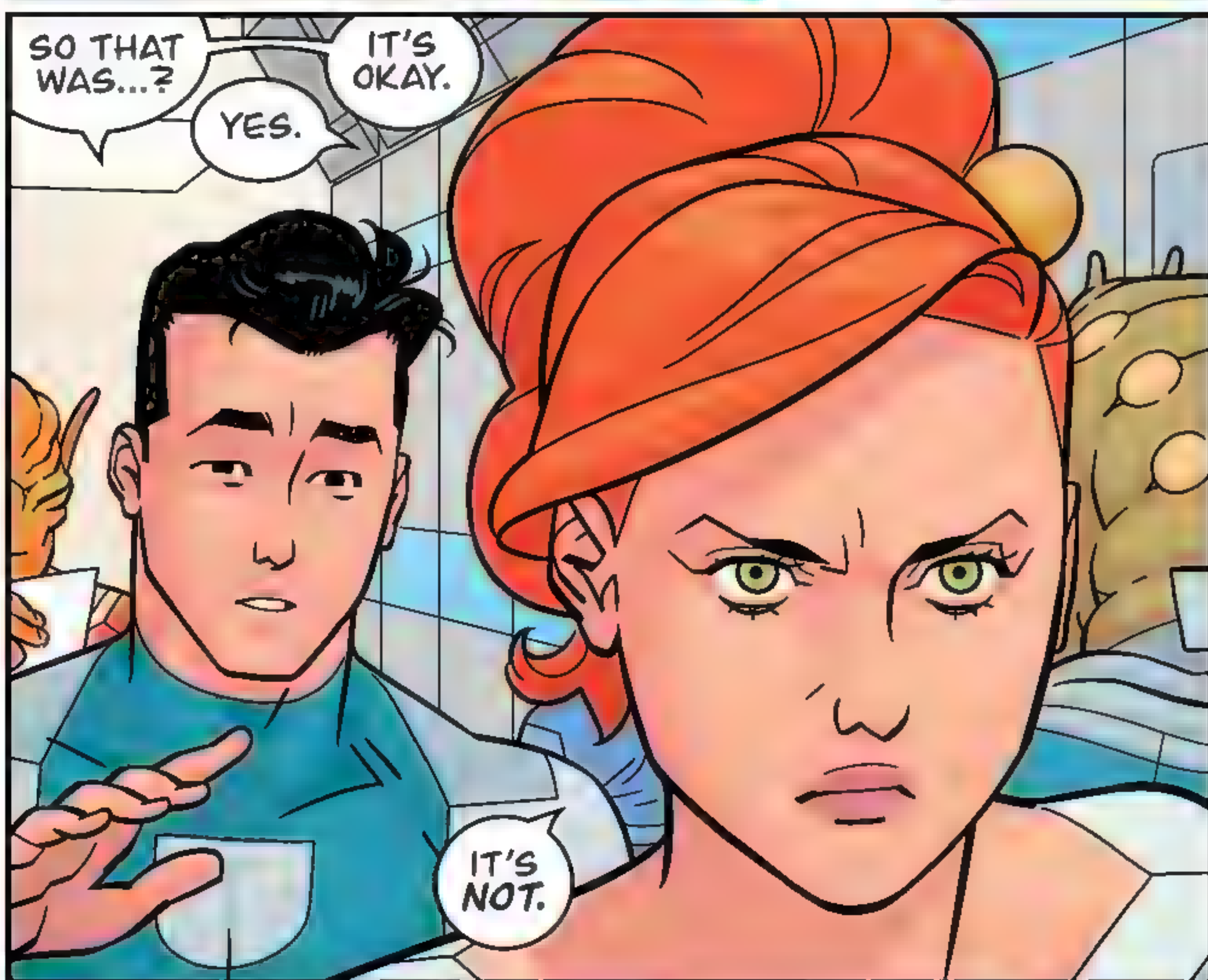
WHO IS--



OH.

COME ON, TERRA.

BYE, NO ARMS ALLEN!



SO THAT WAS...?

IT'S OKAY.

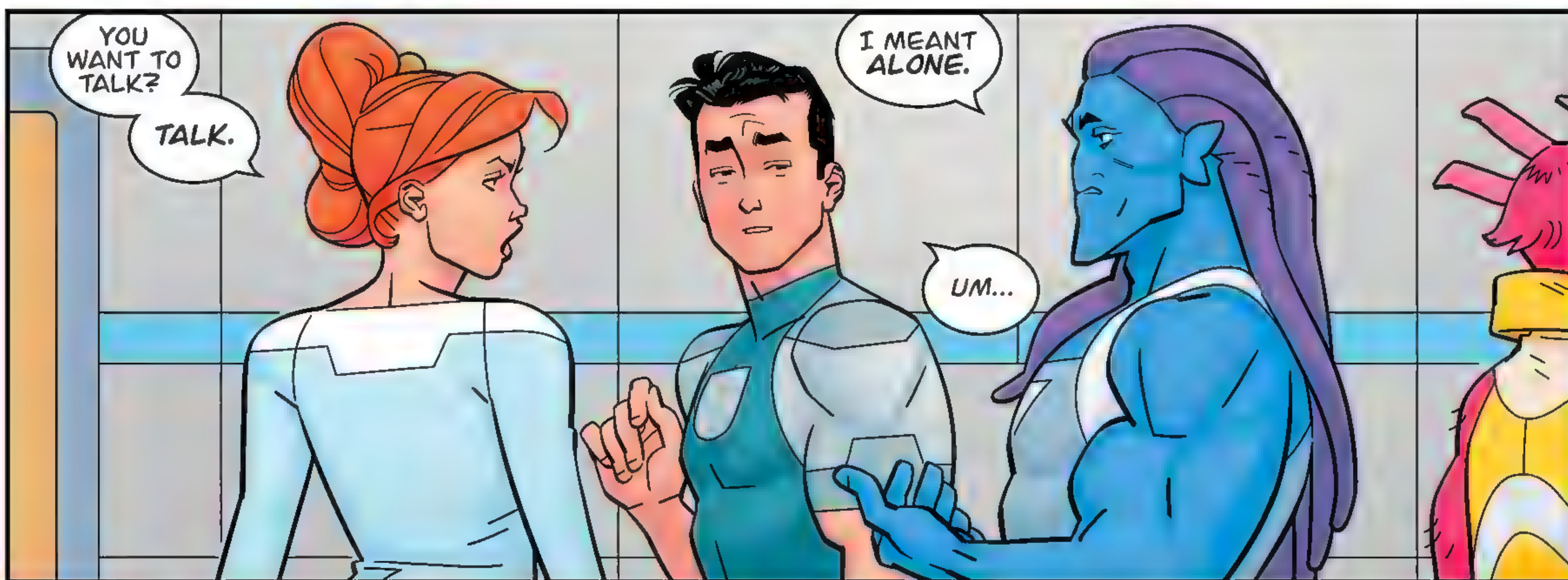
YES.

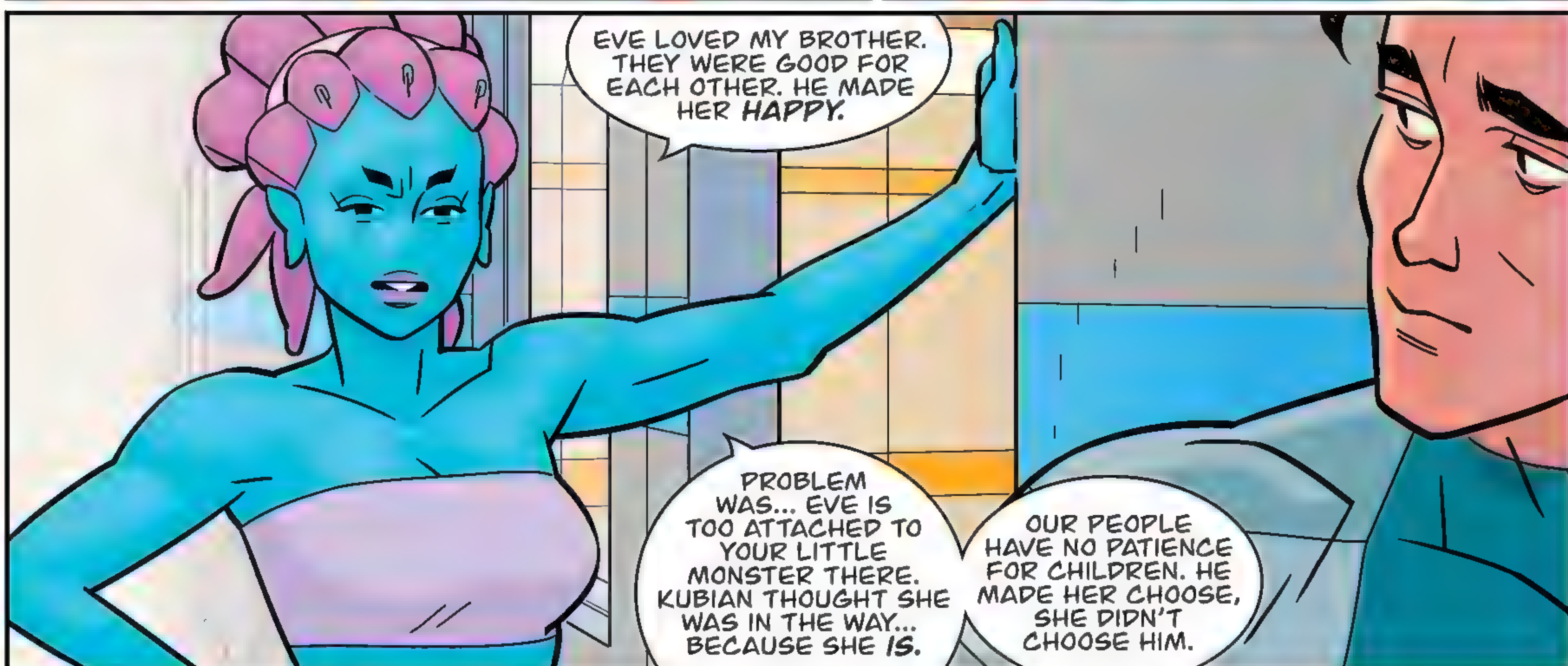
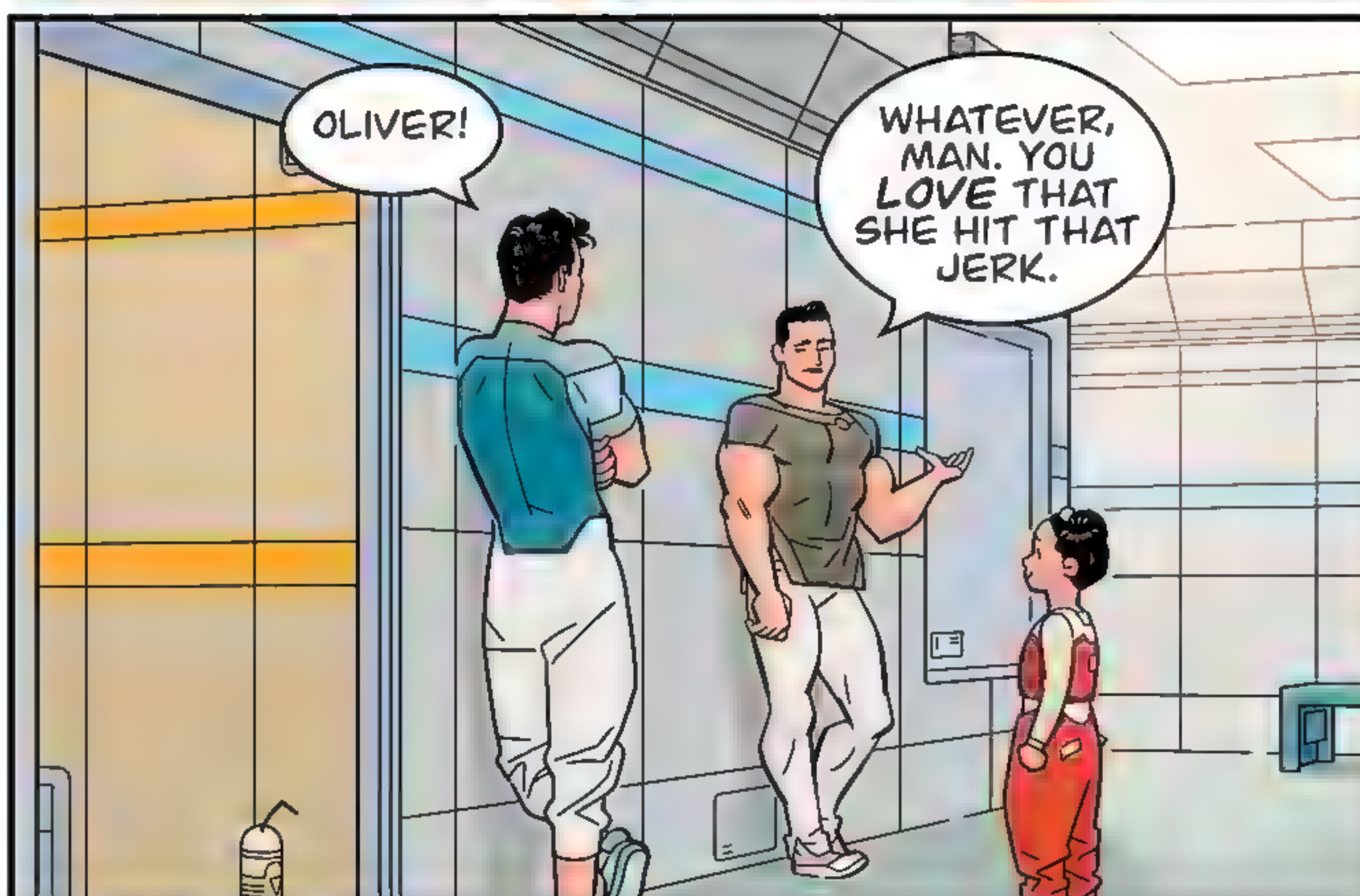
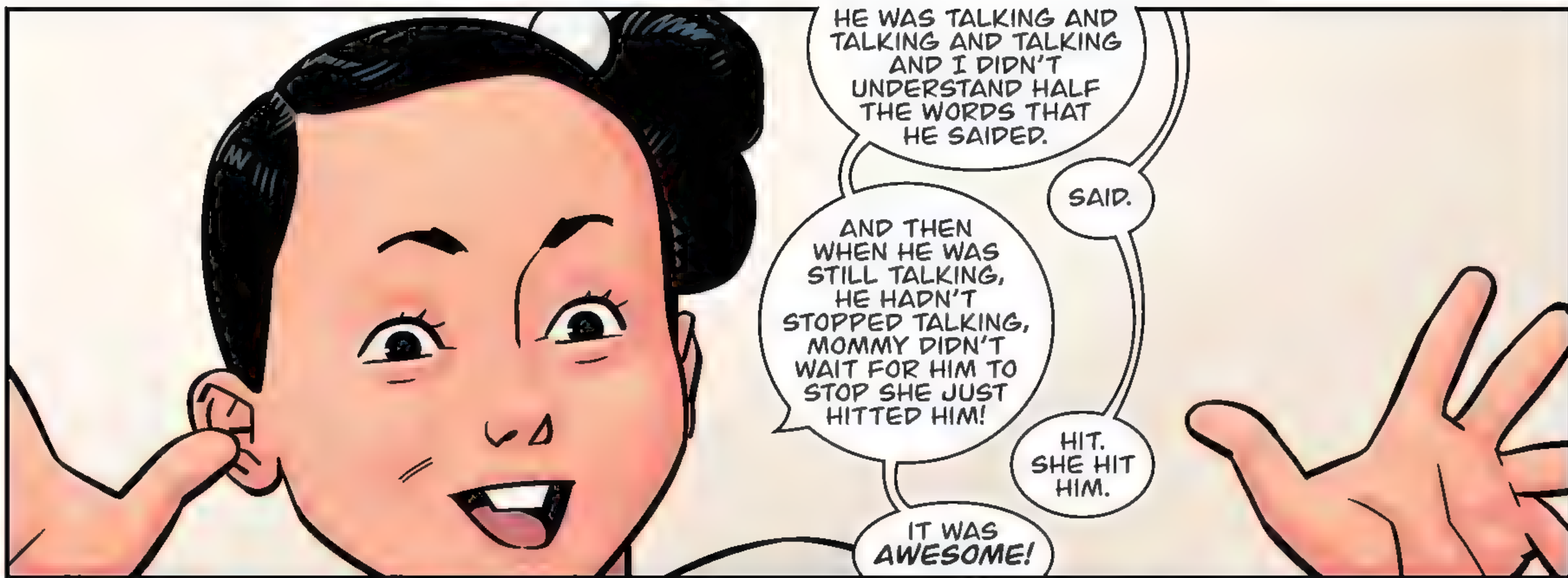
IT'S NOT.

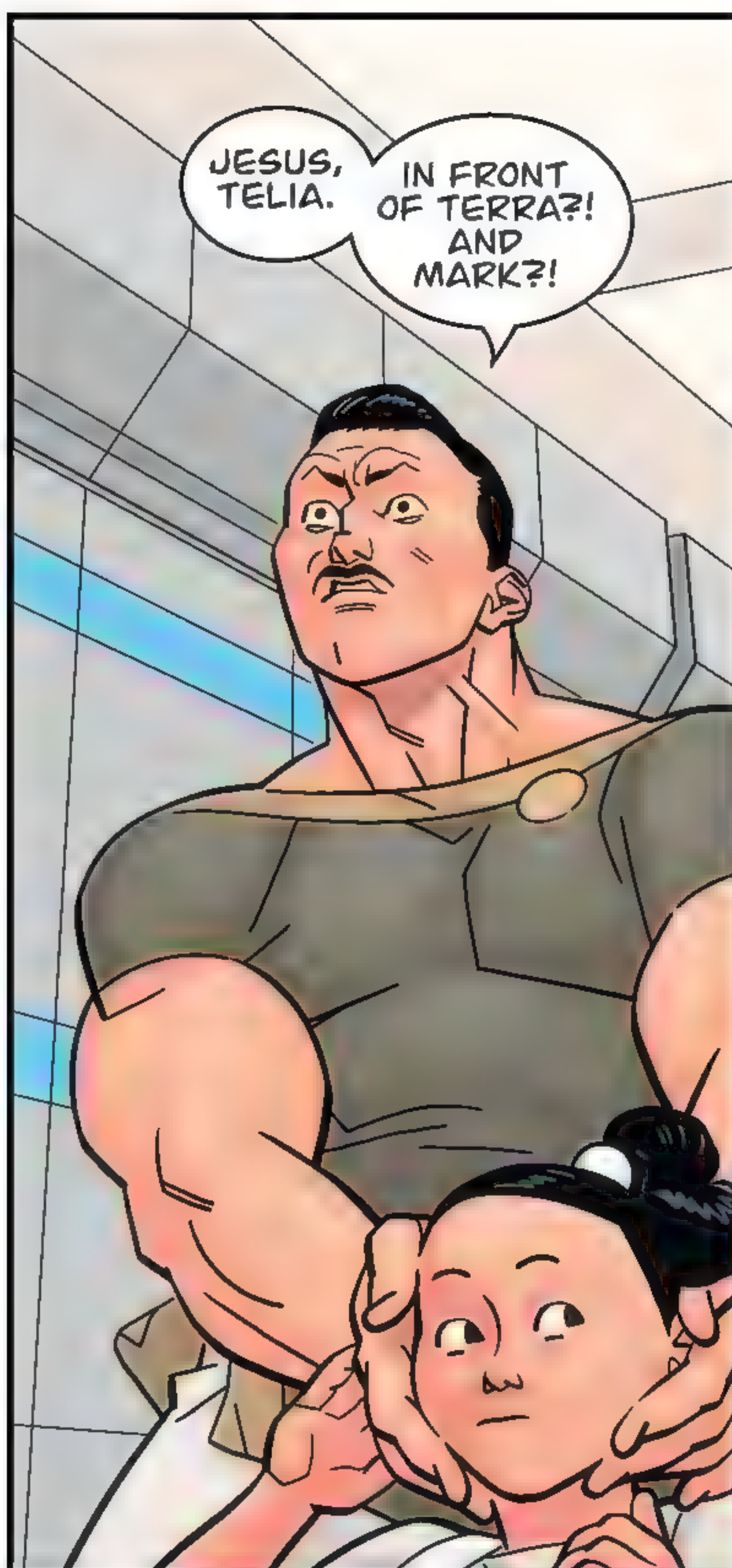


EVE, WAIT. YOU CAN STAY. I'LL GO.

BUT CAN I... COULD WE TALK?







JESUS, TELIA.

IN FRONT OF TERRA?! AND MARK?!



IT'S OKAY. I... I WANT TO KNOW.

AT LEAST... I THOUGHT I WANTED TO...



WIMP.



IGNORE HER. SHE'S THE **ABSOLUTE WORST**. HAVE YOU TALKED TO MOM AND DAD SINCE YOU GOT BACK?

NO. HAVE YOU? WE'VE TRIED TO CONTACT THEM, BUT NOTHING IS GETTING THROUGH. ALLEN SAID IT MIGHT BE INTERFERENCE.



EVE AND I WERE PRETTY WORRIED. WE WERE PLANNING ON JUST GOING TO EARTH TO CHECK ON THEM. WE WERE GOING TO LEAVE TOMORROW.

THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA. I WISH I COULD GO WITH YOU, BUT I'M UP TO MY EYEBALLS, ESPECIALLY WITH ALLEN HEALING.

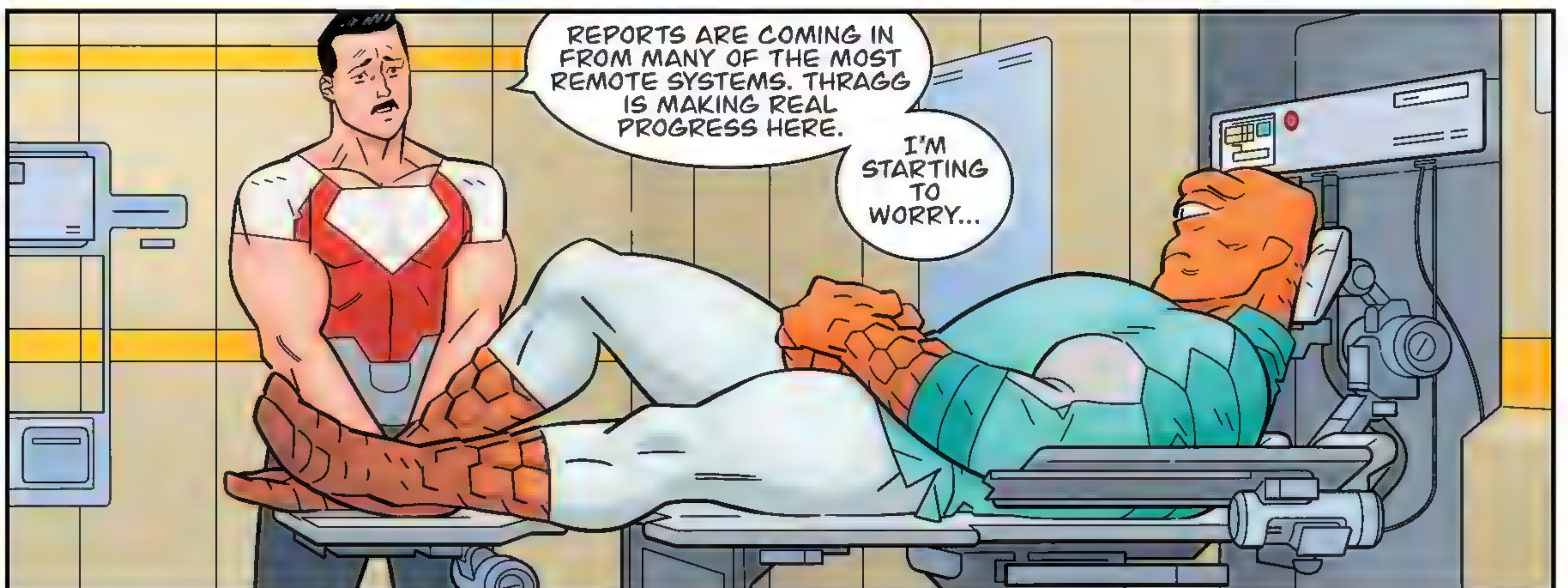
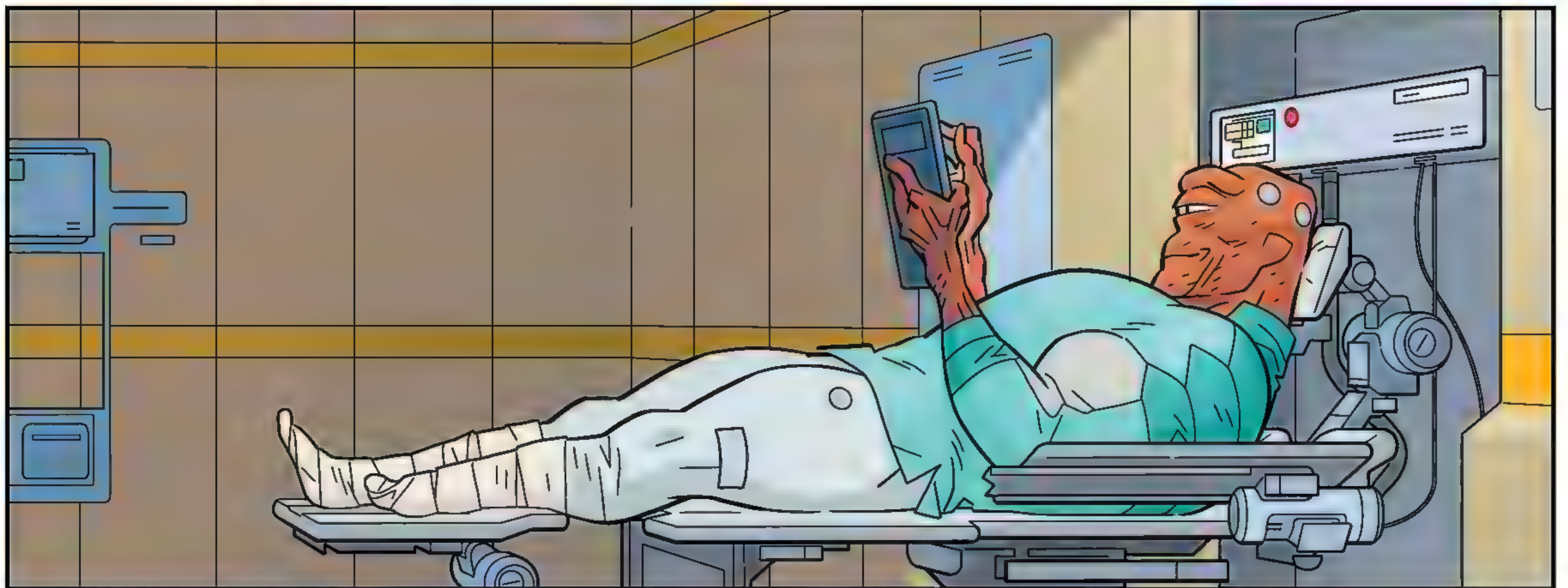
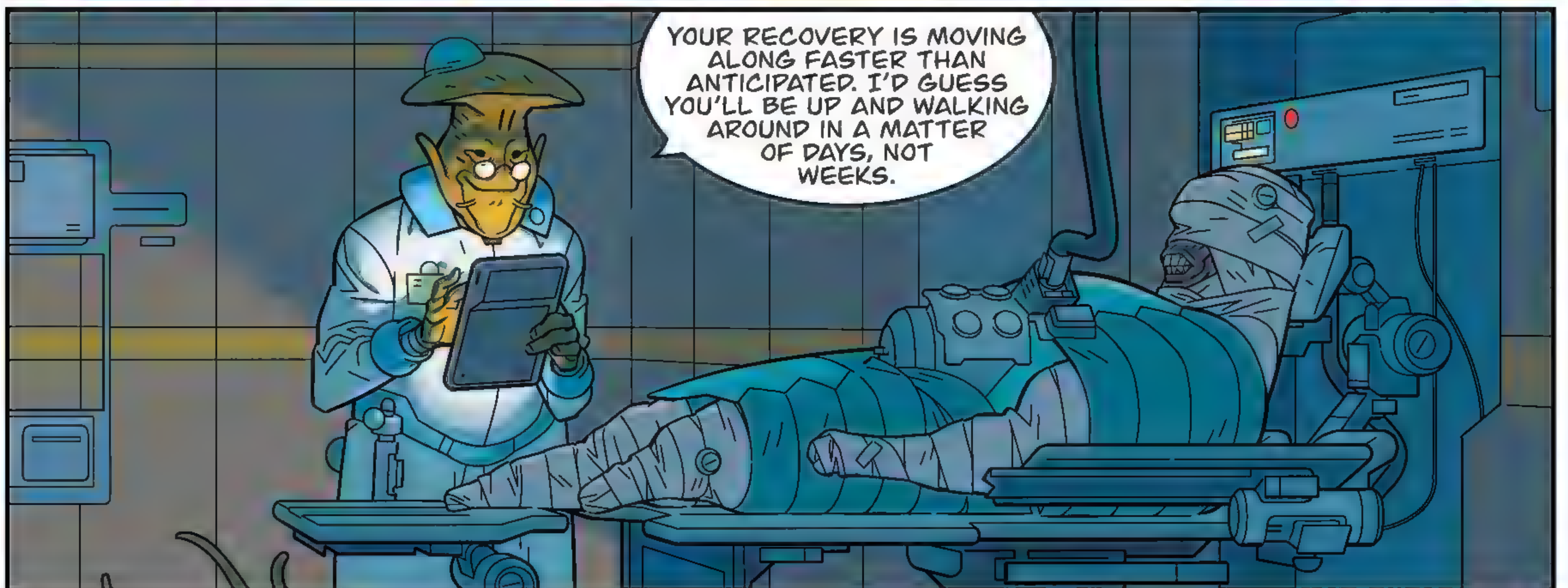


CAN WE GO?



UH... SURE. LET'S JUST SAY GOODBYE TO ALLEN.

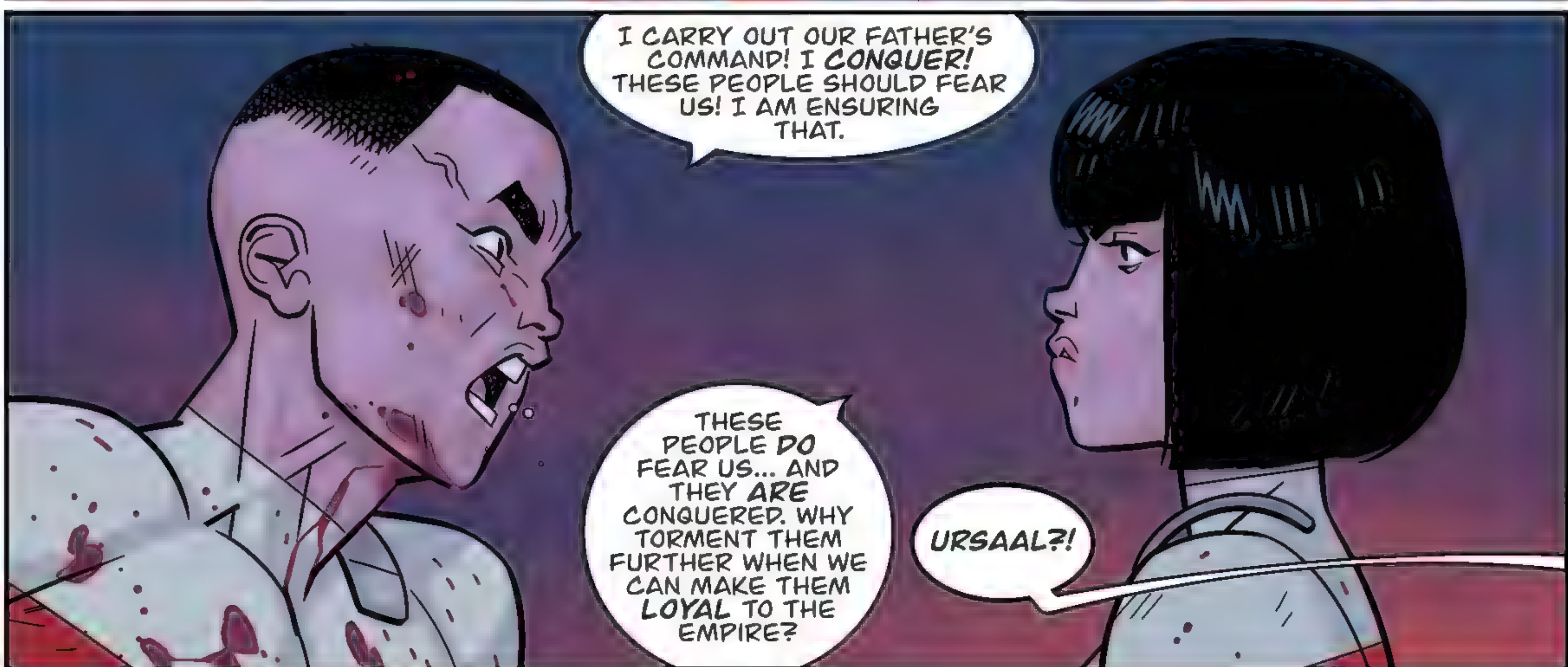
DID YOU KILL THAT GUY?!





HAVE YOU
LOST YOUR
MIND,
SISTER?!

I FEAR
IT IS YOU
WHO HAS
LOST YOURS,
ONANN!

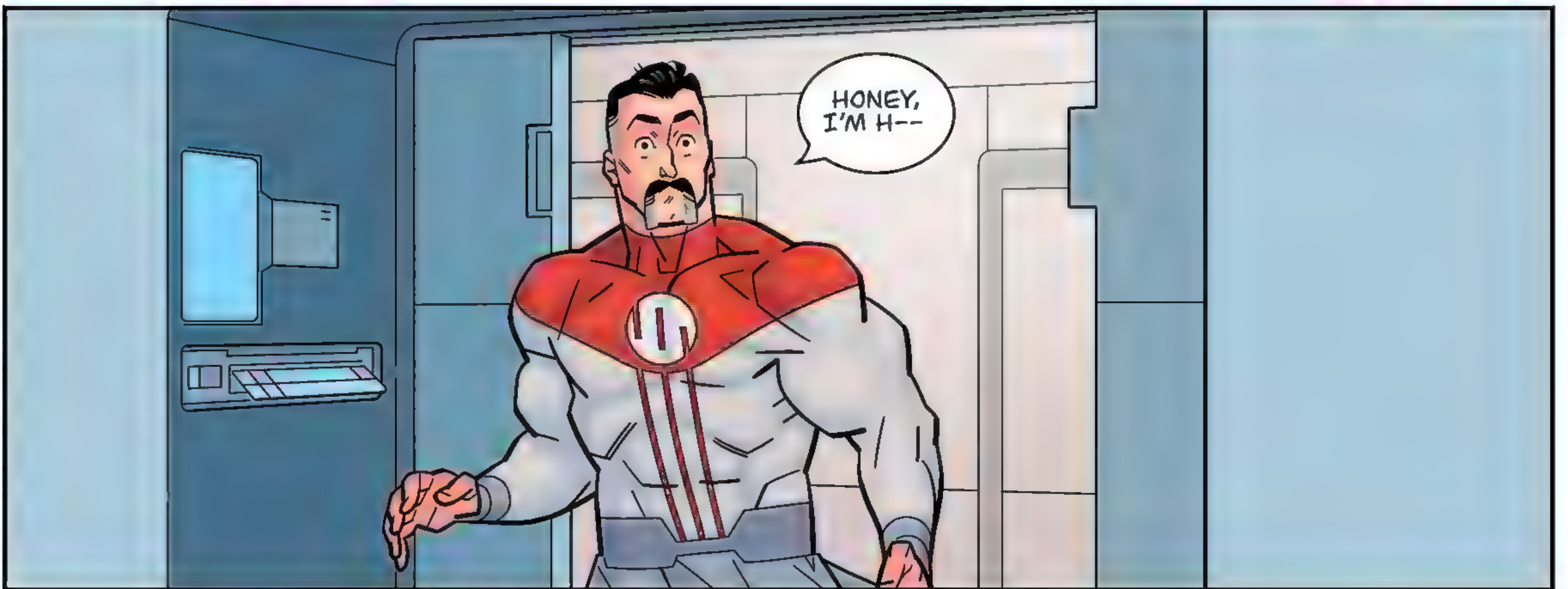
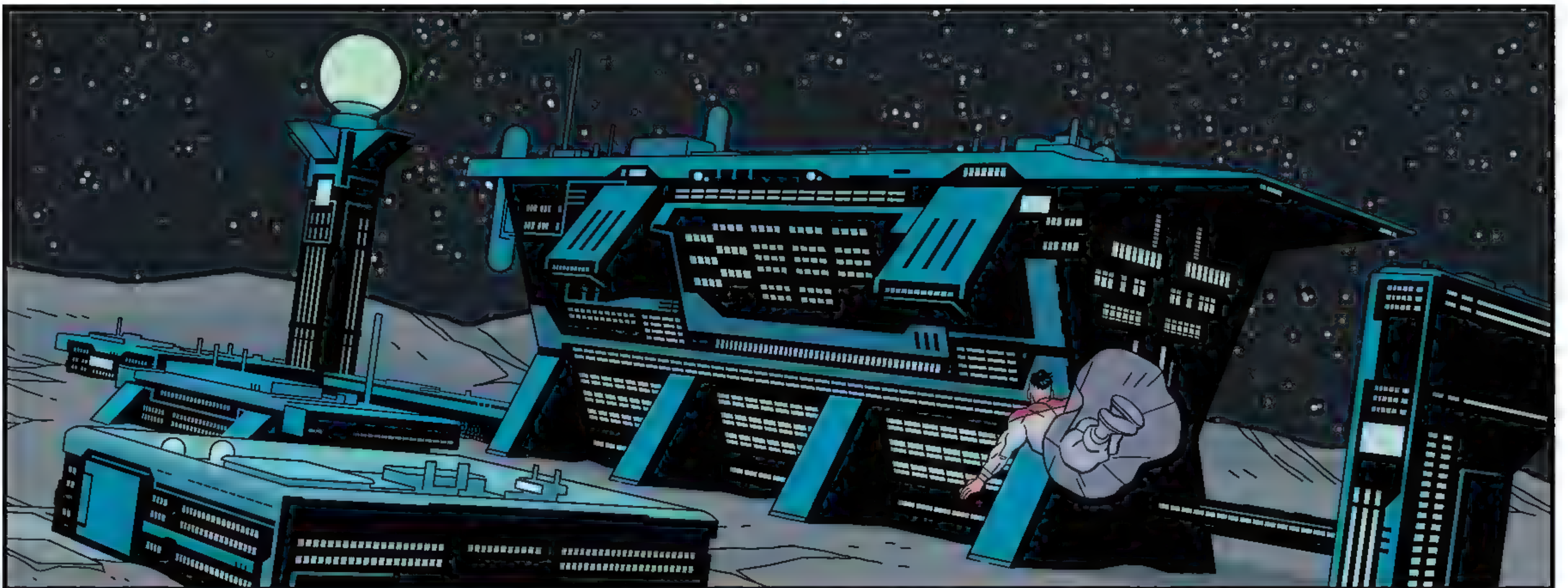


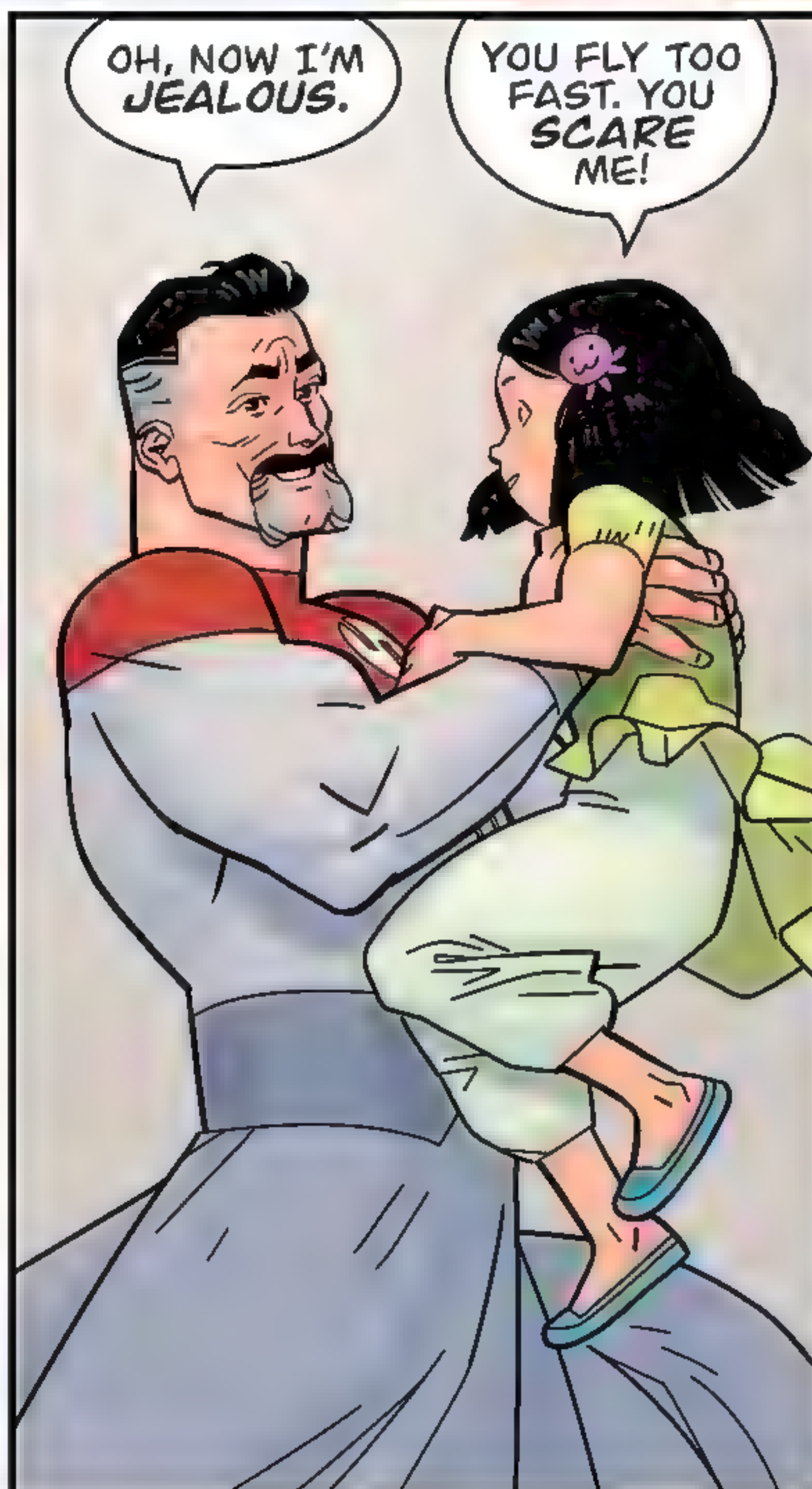
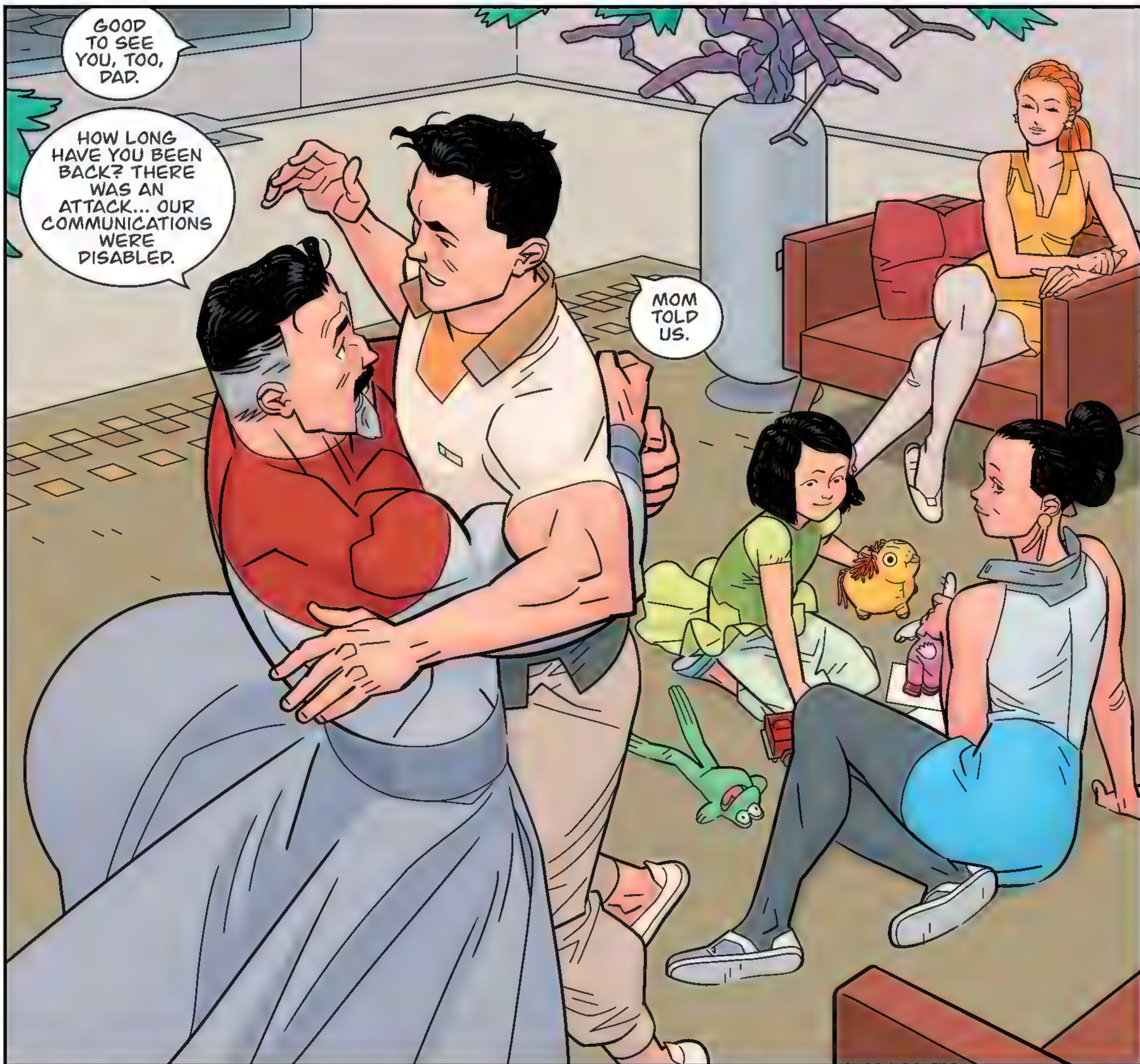
I CARRY OUT OUR FATHER'S
COMMAND! I CONQUER!
THESE PEOPLE SHOULD FEAR
US! I AM ENSURING
THAT.

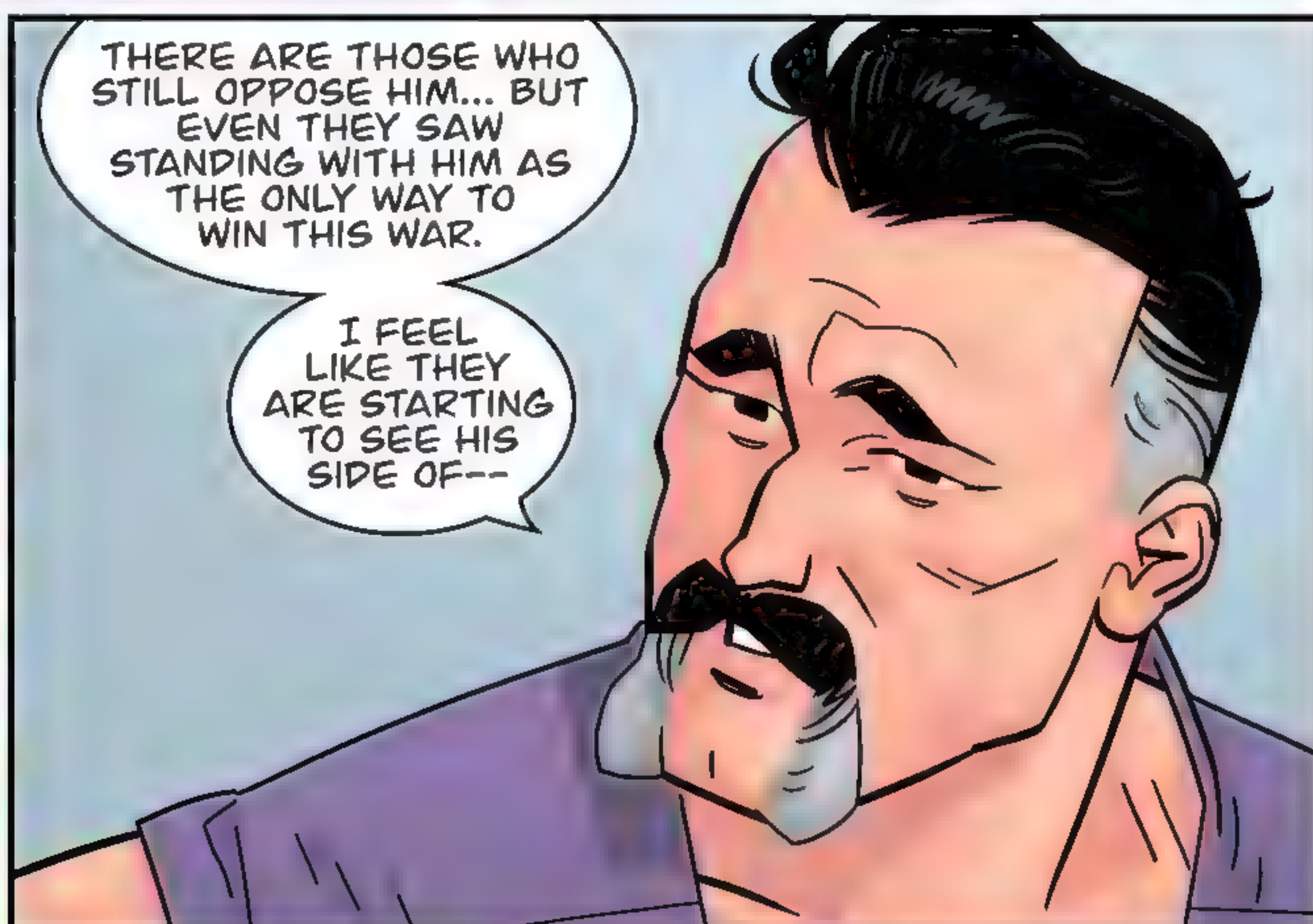
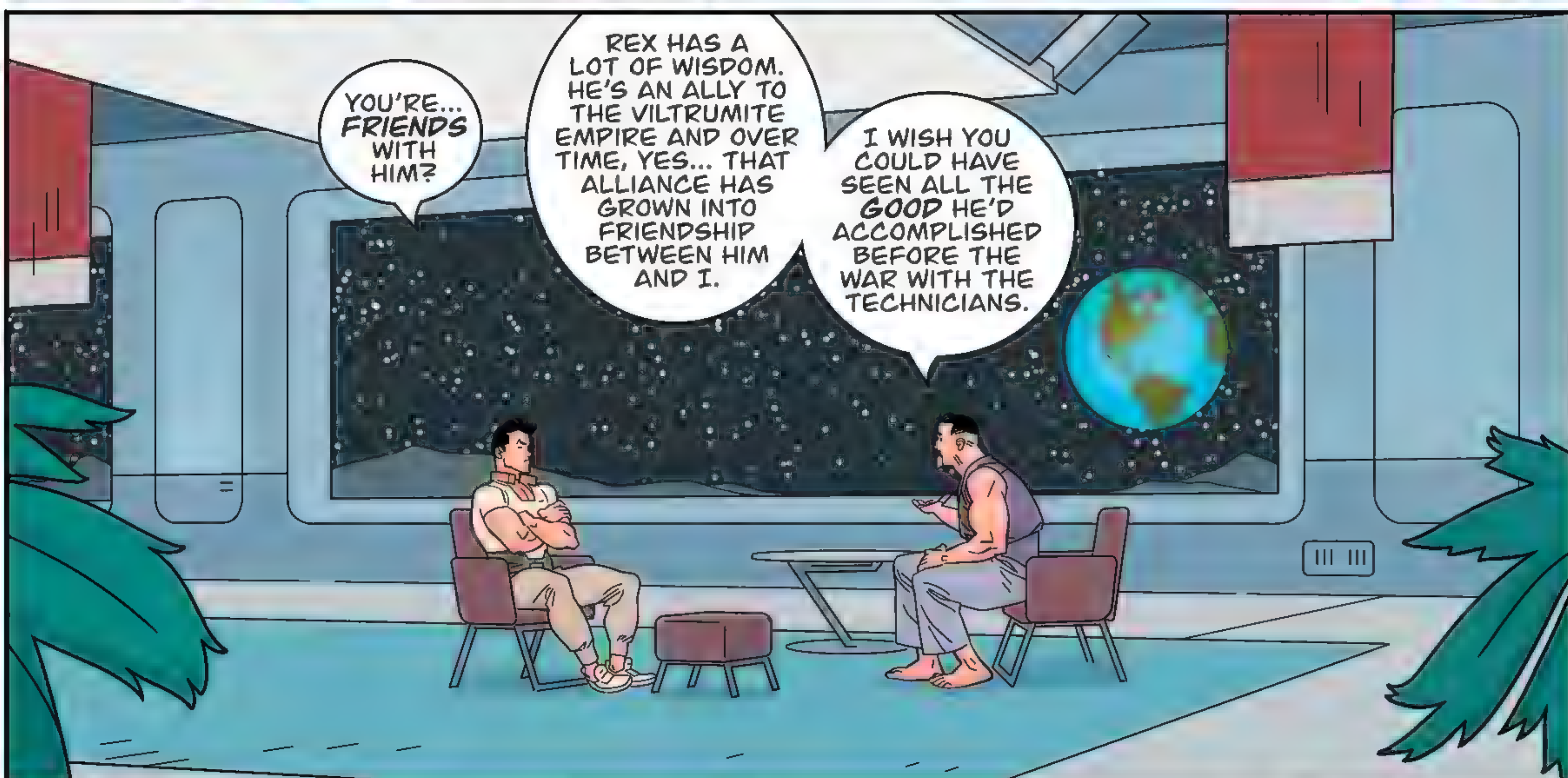
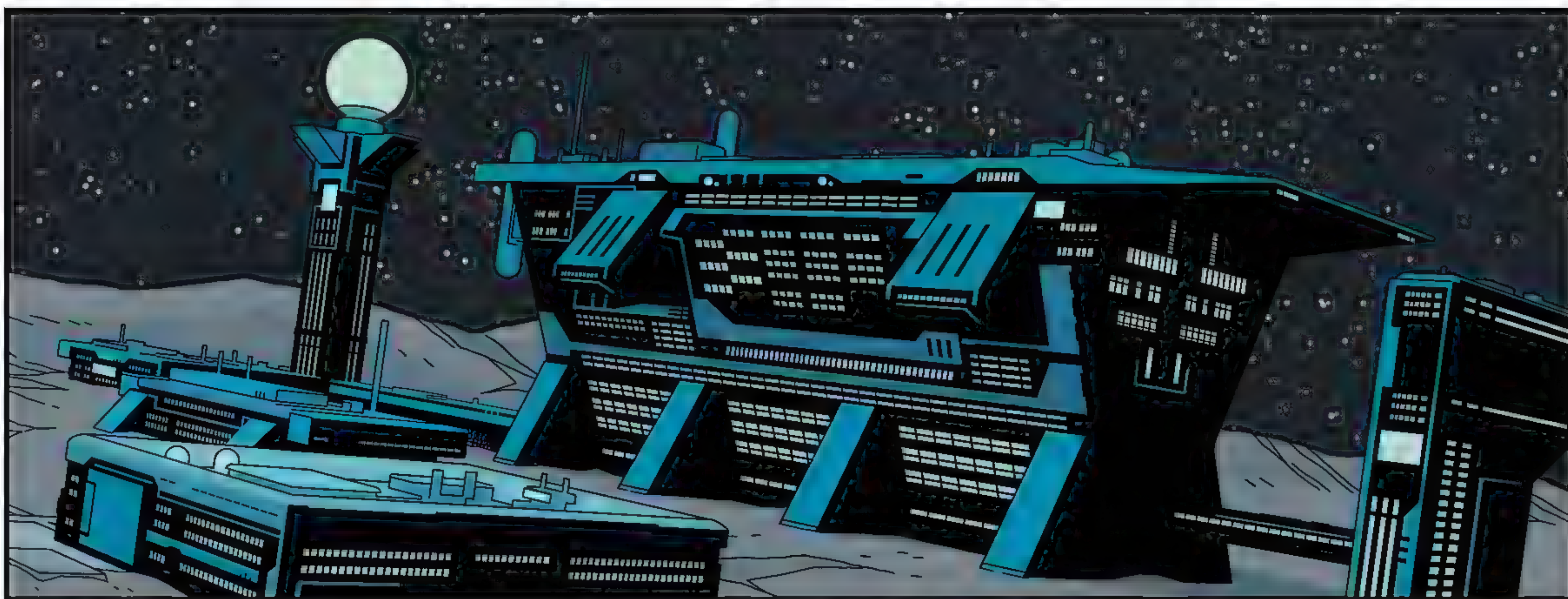
THESE
PEOPLE DO
FEAR US... AND
THEY ARE
CONQUERED. WHY
TORMENT THEM
FURTHER WHEN WE
CAN MAKE THEM
LOYAL TO THE
EMPIRE?

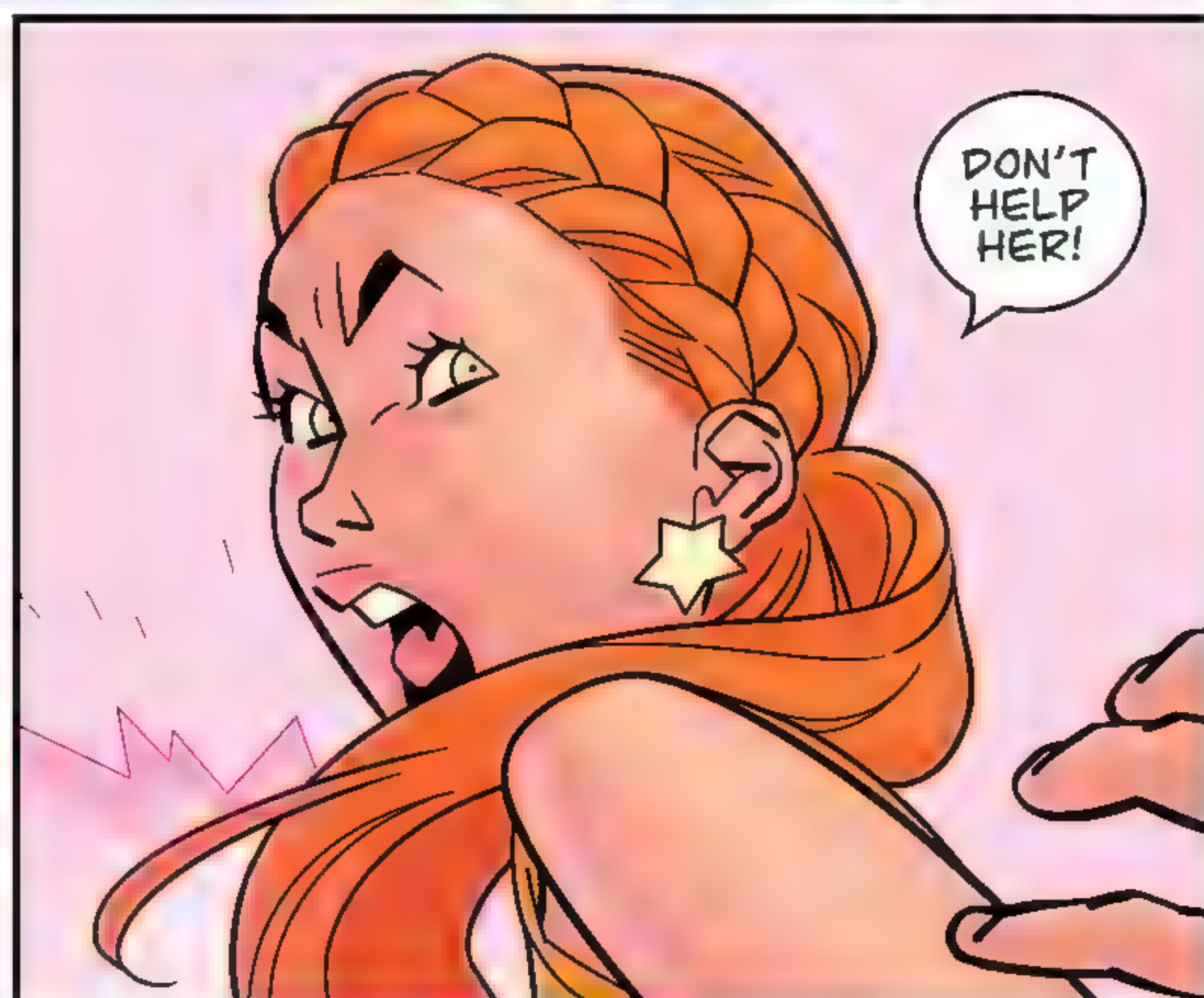
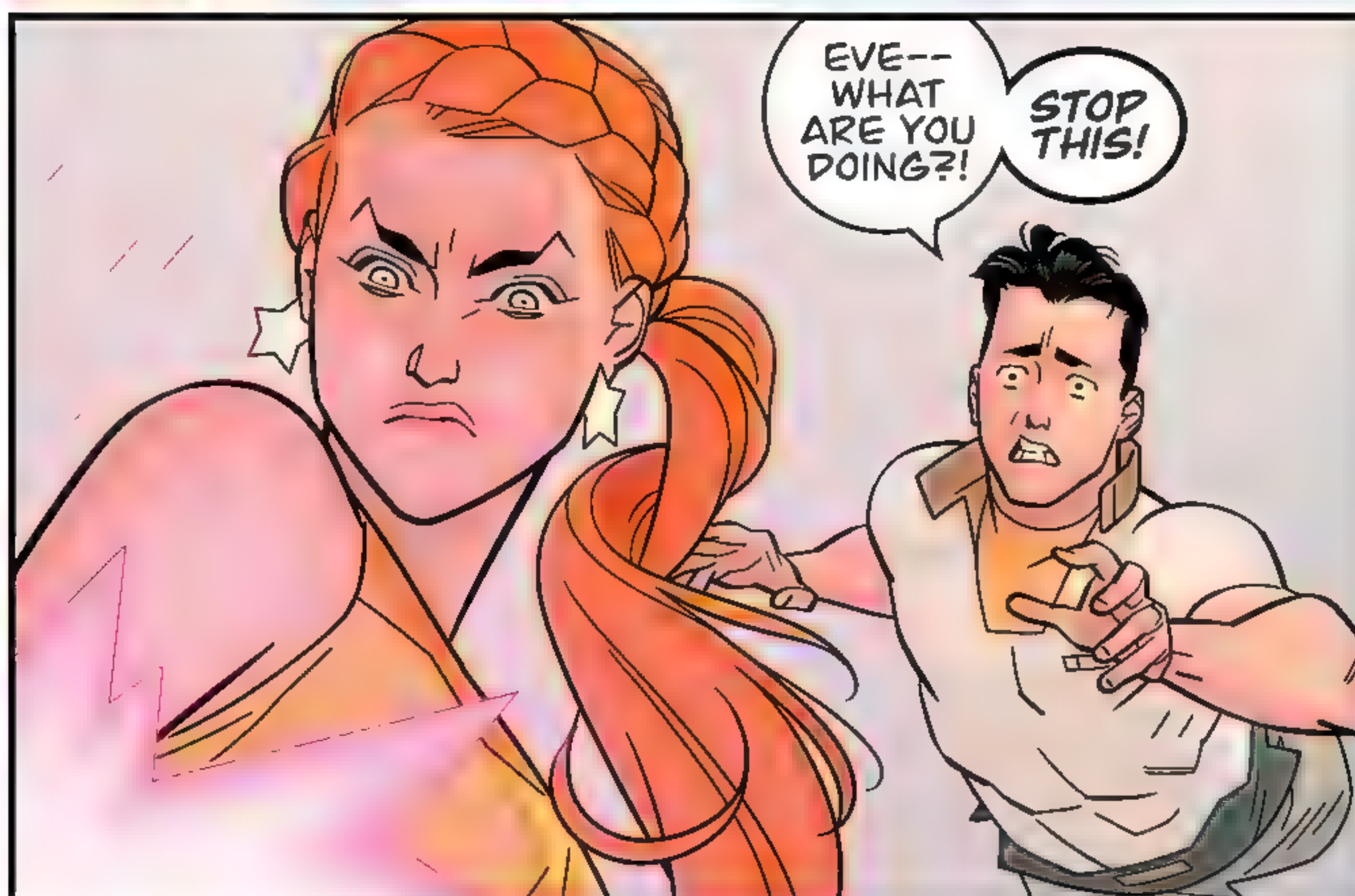
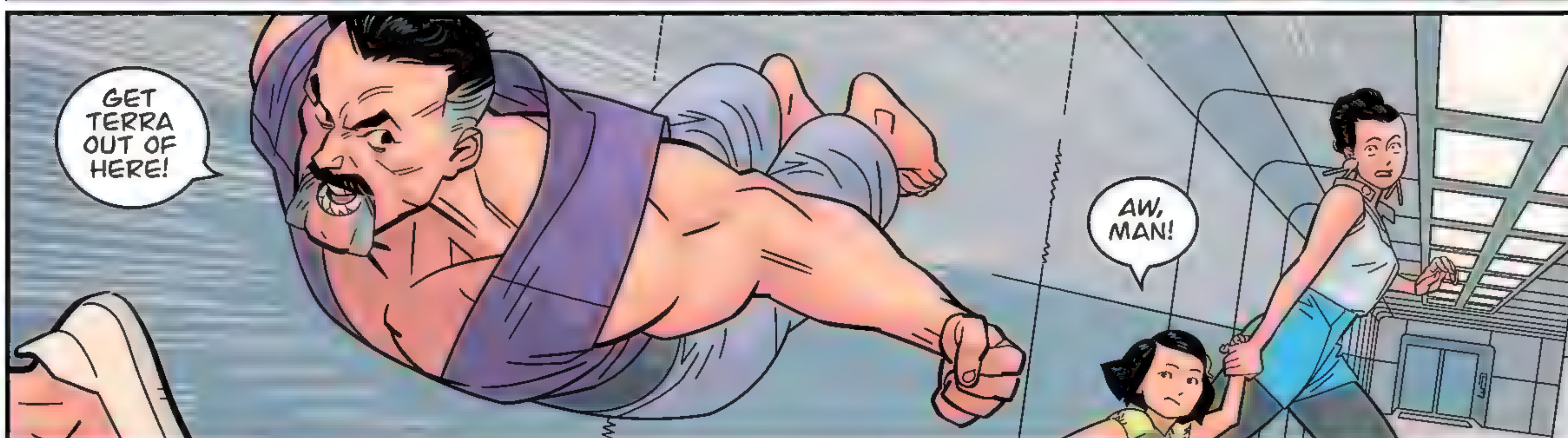
URSAAL?!

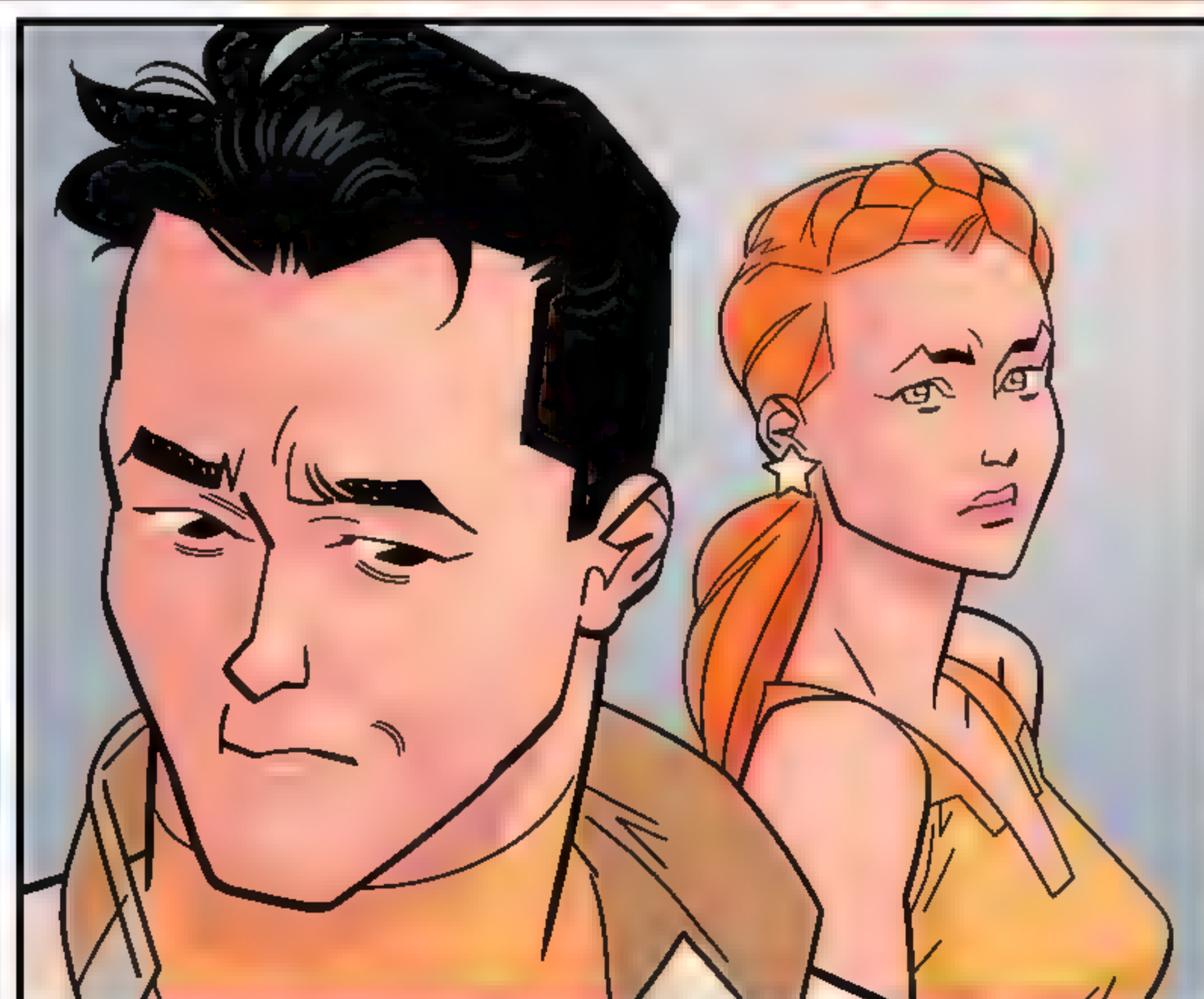


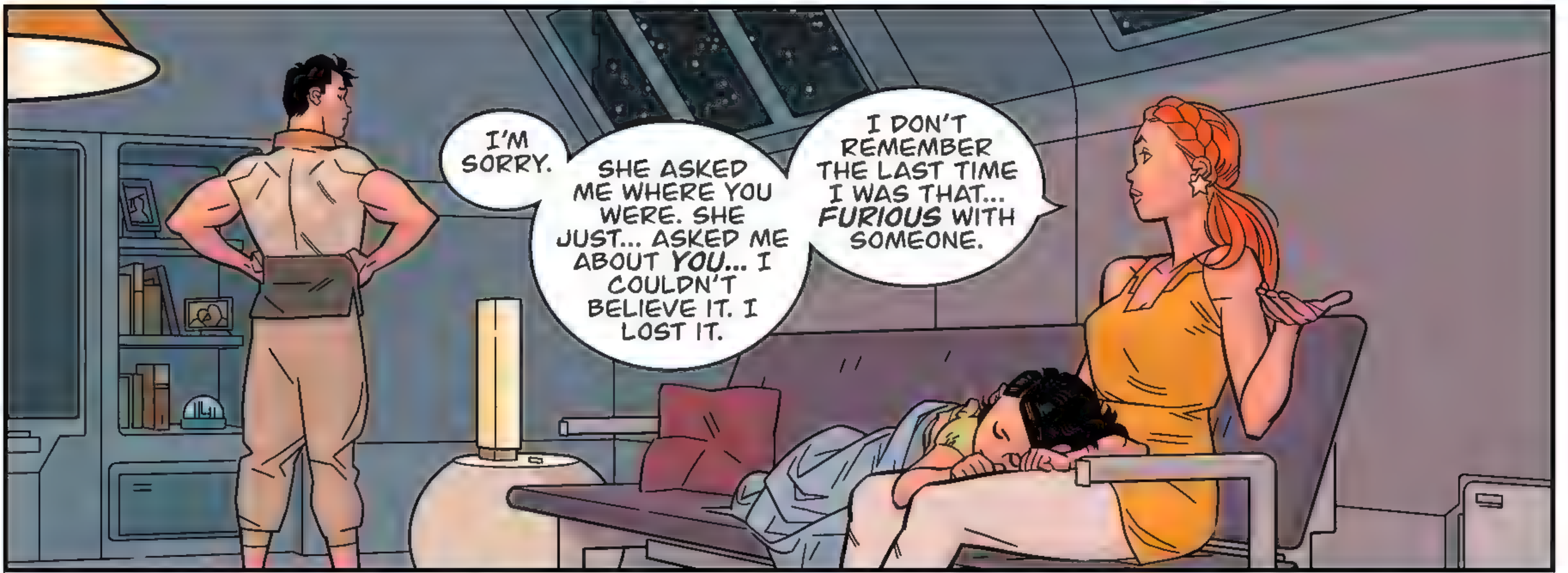












I'M SORRY.

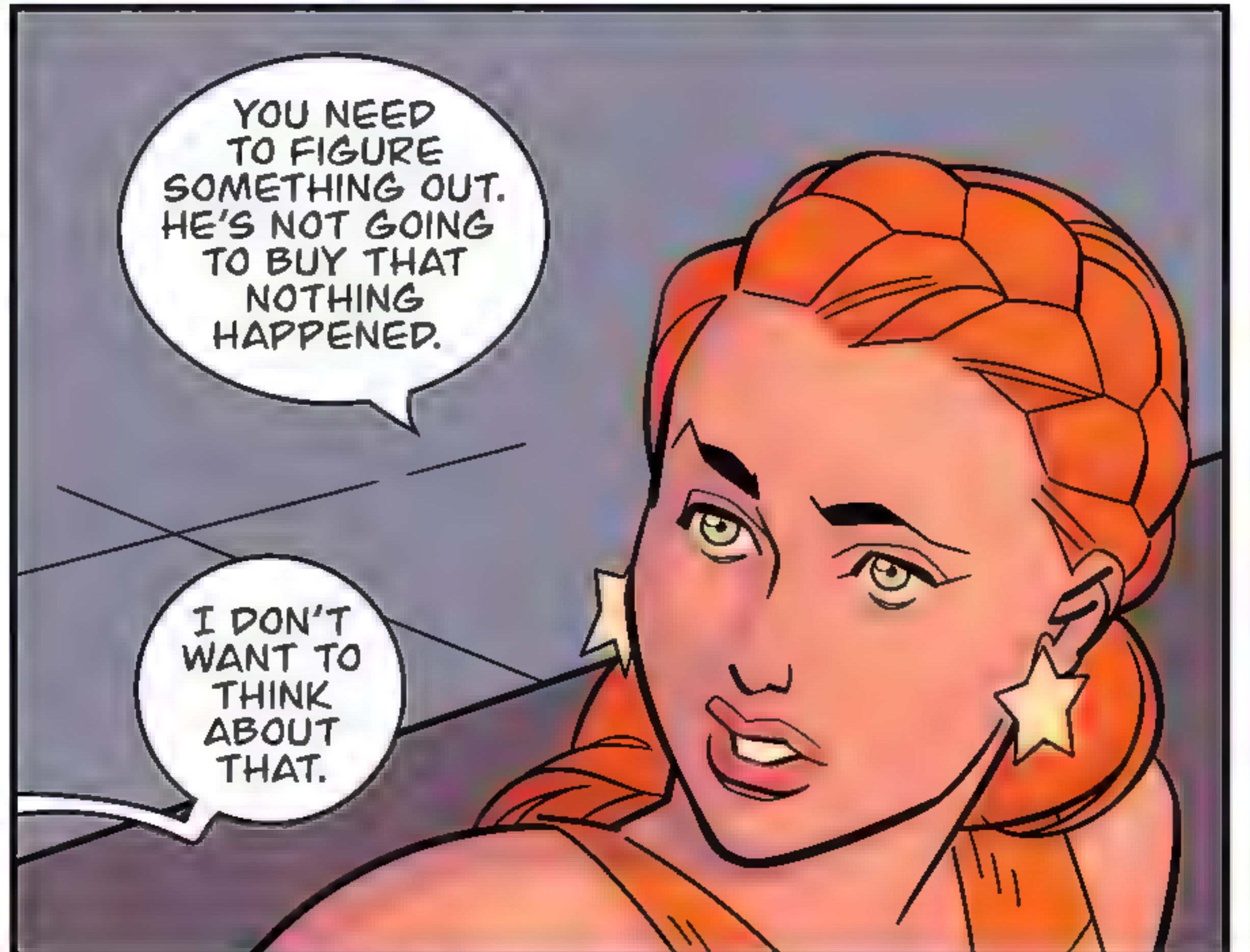
SHE ASKED ME WHERE YOU WERE. SHE JUST... ASKED ME ABOUT YOU... I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. I LOST IT.

I DON'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I WAS THAT... **FURIOUS** WITH SOMEONE.



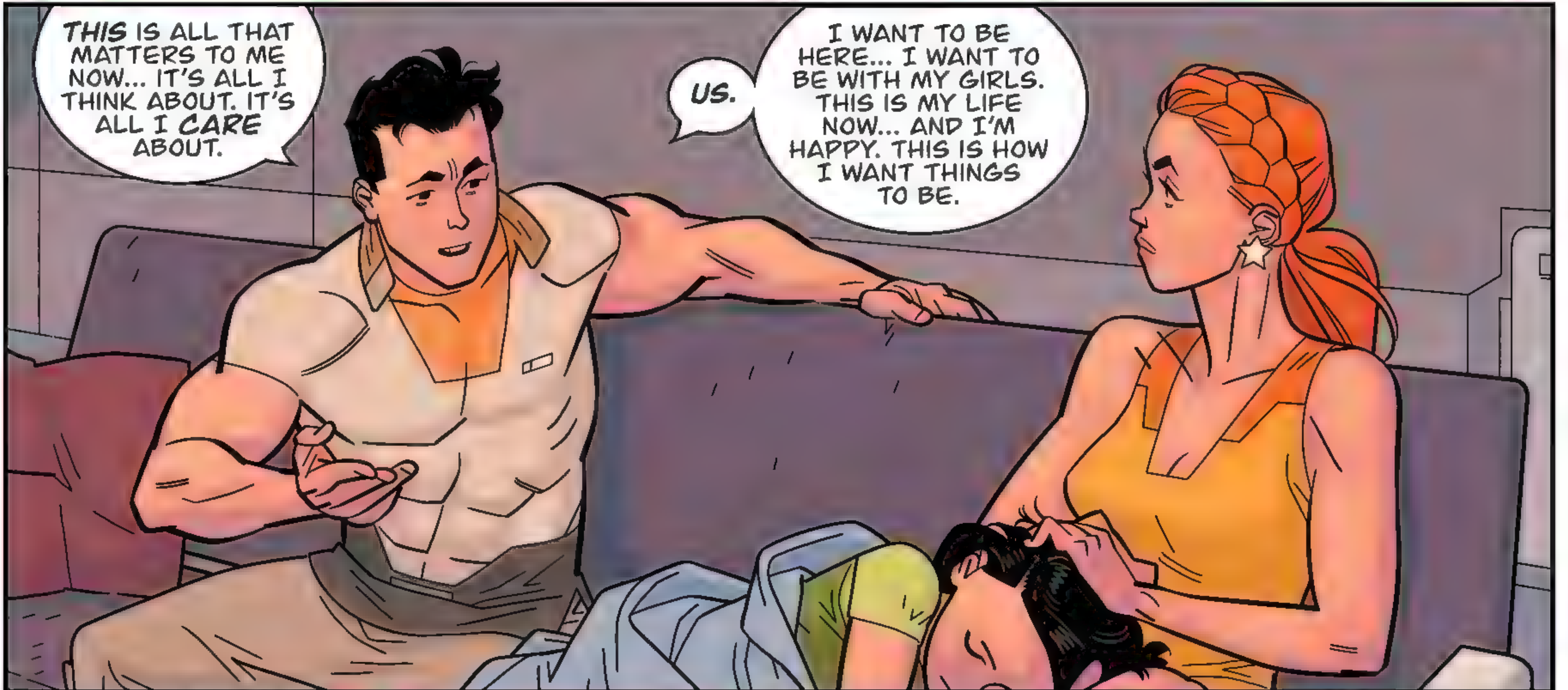
YOU THINK I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH GOING ON RIGHT NOW? THE LAST THING I NEED TO DO IS DEAL WITH THIS.

I DON'T WANT MY PARENTS TO KNOW. WHO **KNOWS** WHAT MY DAD WOULD DO?



YOU NEED TO FIGURE SOMETHING OUT. HE'S NOT GOING TO BUY THAT NOTHING HAPPENED.

I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT THAT.



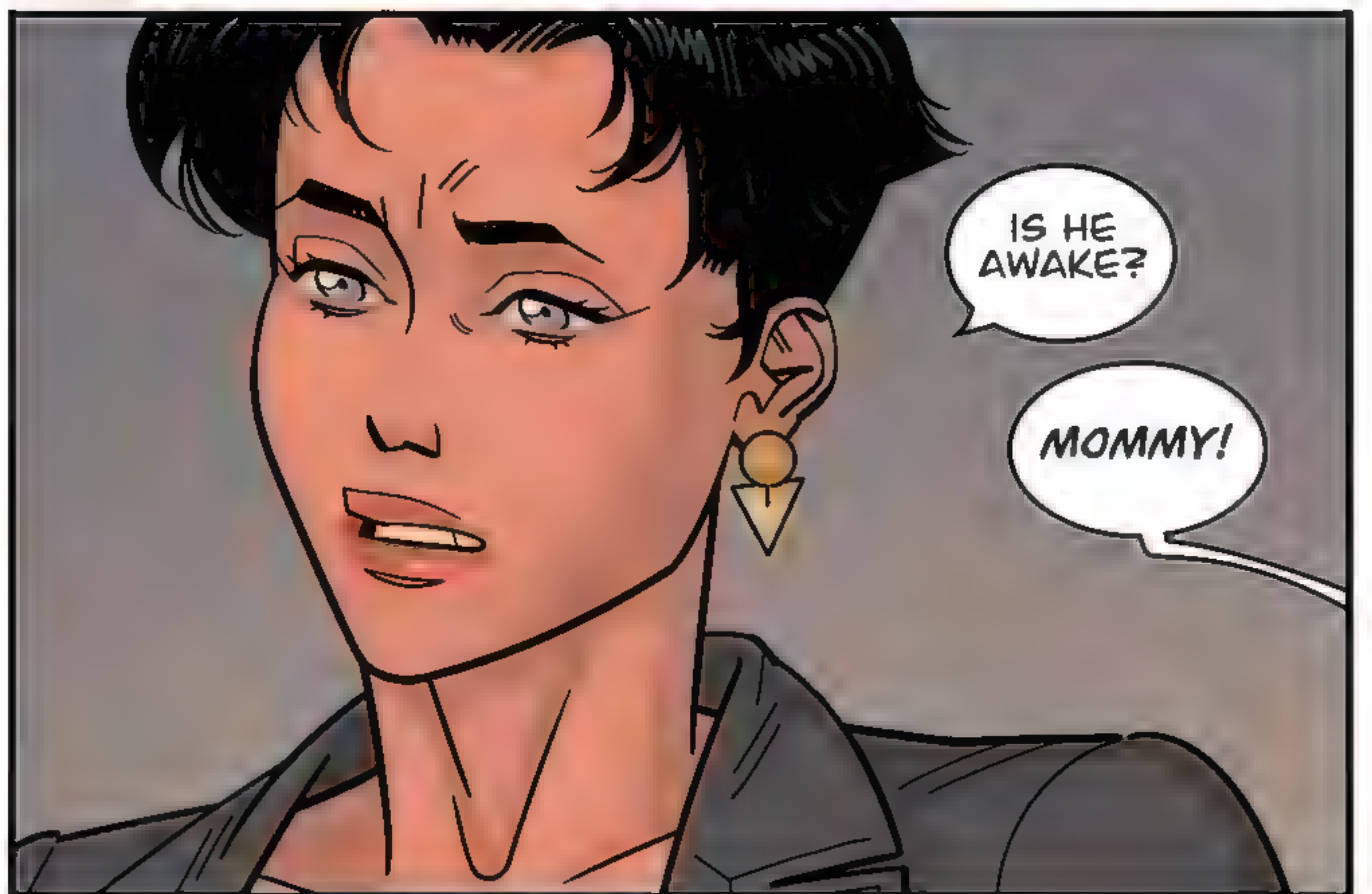
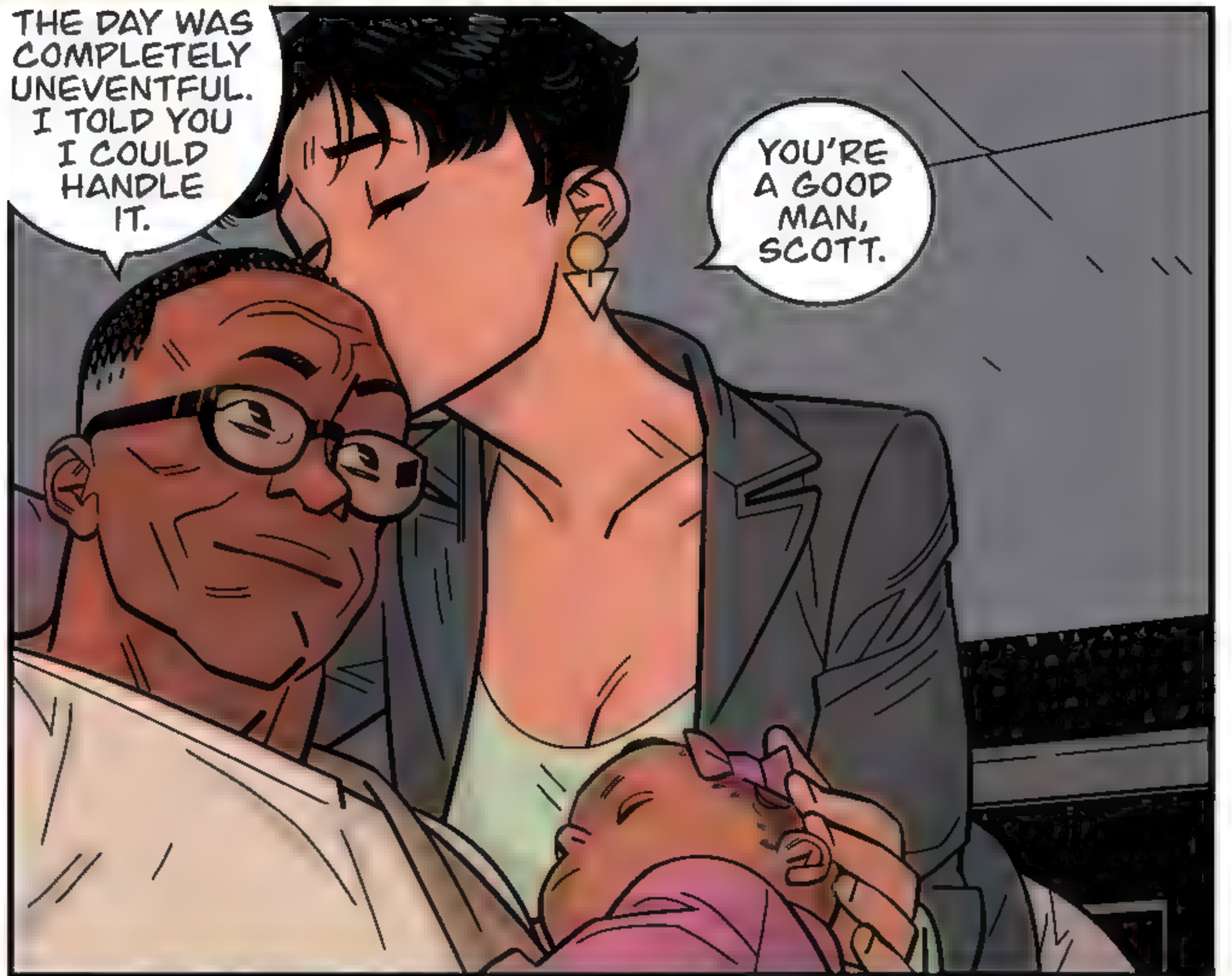
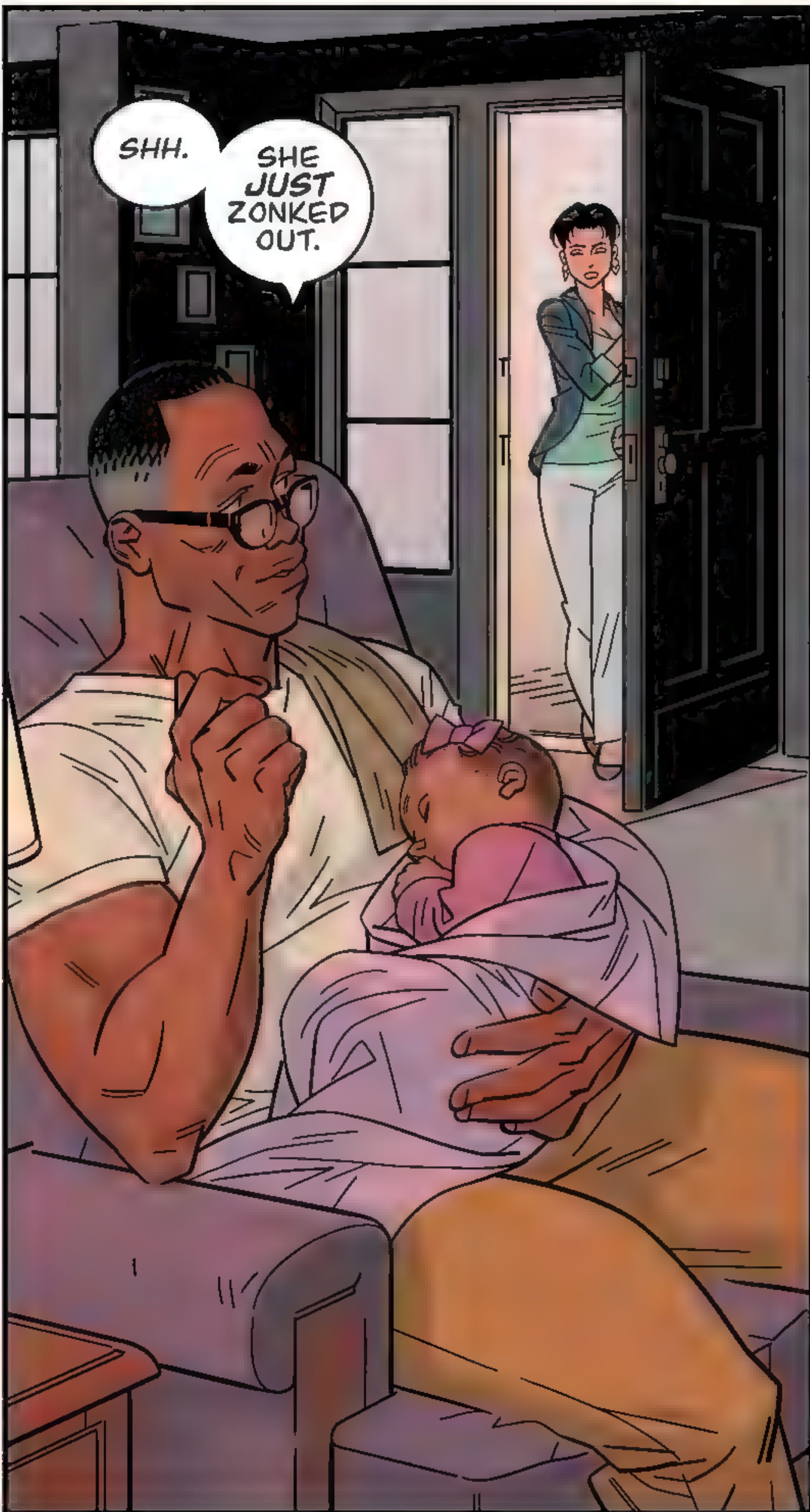
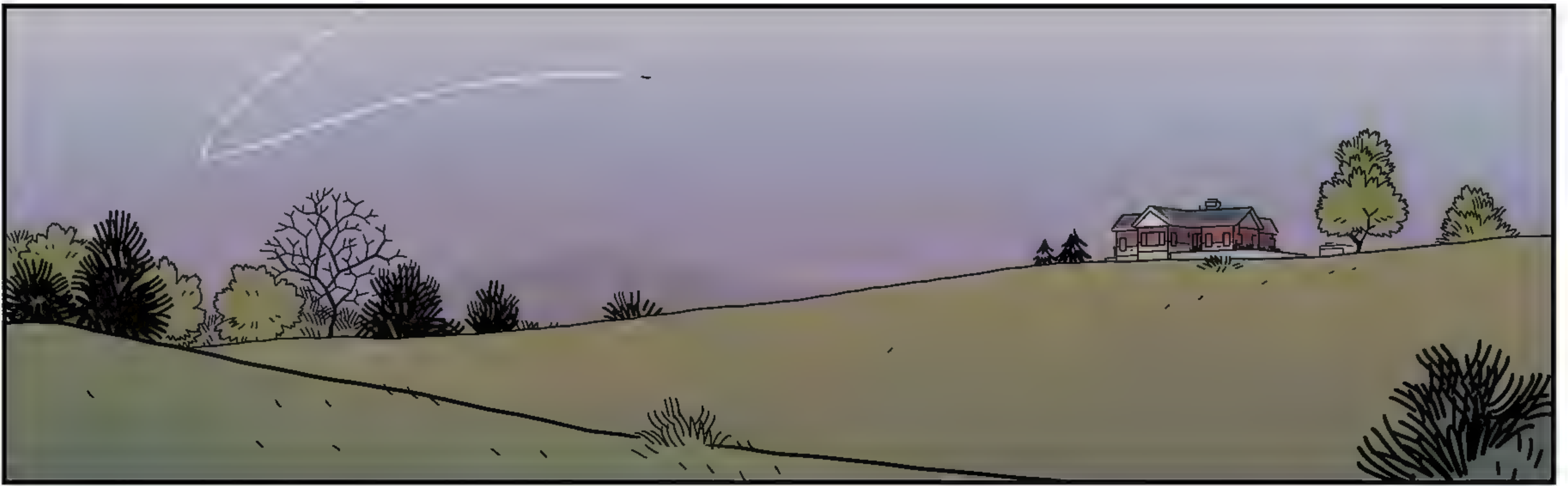
THIS IS ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME NOW... IT'S ALL I THINK ABOUT. IT'S ALL I CARE ABOUT.

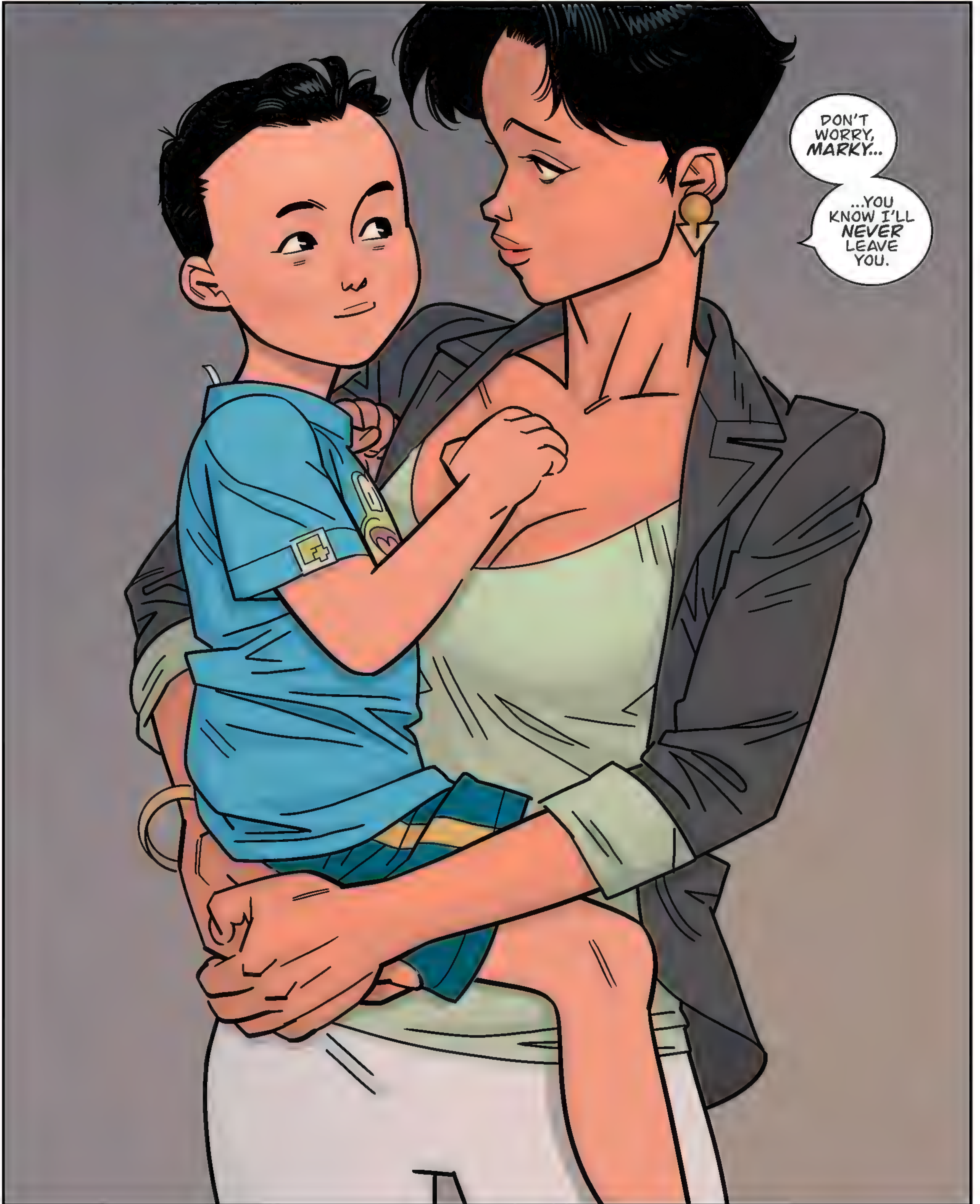
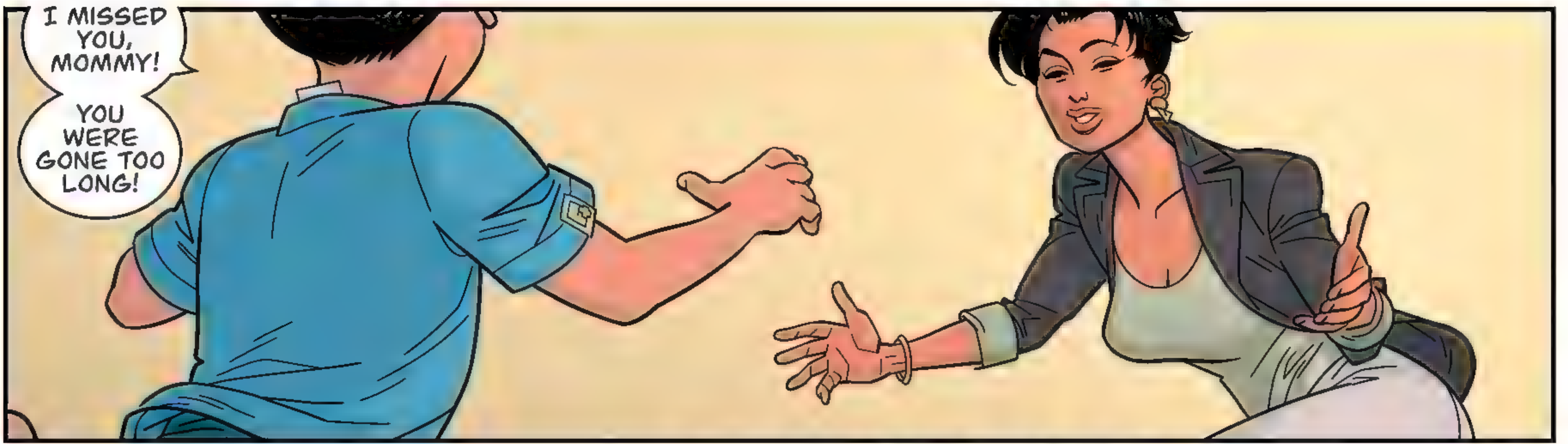
US.

I WANT TO BE HERE... I WANT TO BE WITH MY GIRLS. THIS IS MY LIFE NOW... AND I'M HAPPY. THIS IS HOW I WANT THINGS TO BE.



I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO EVER GET IN THE WAY OF THAT.

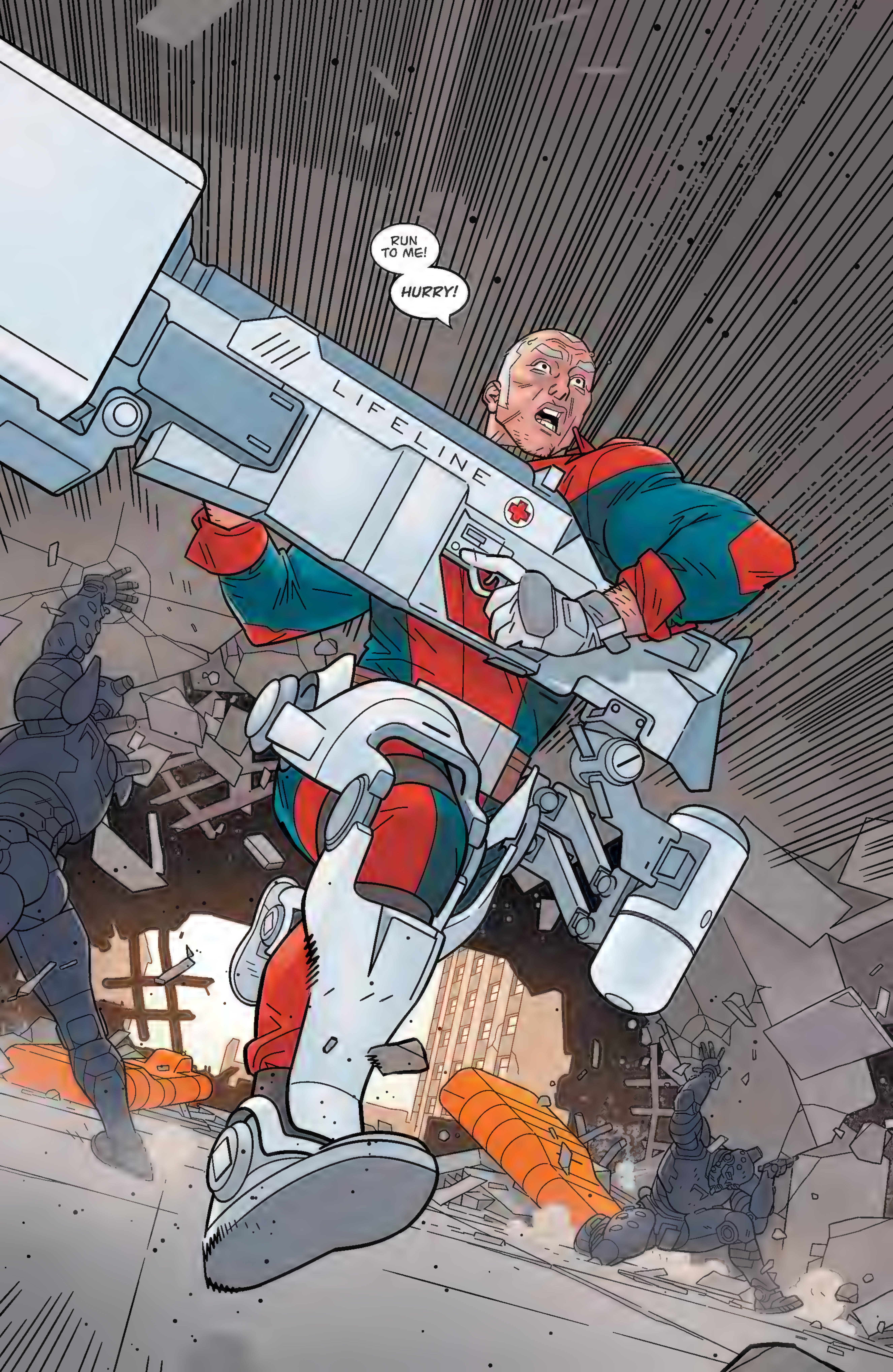






CHAPTER FOUR

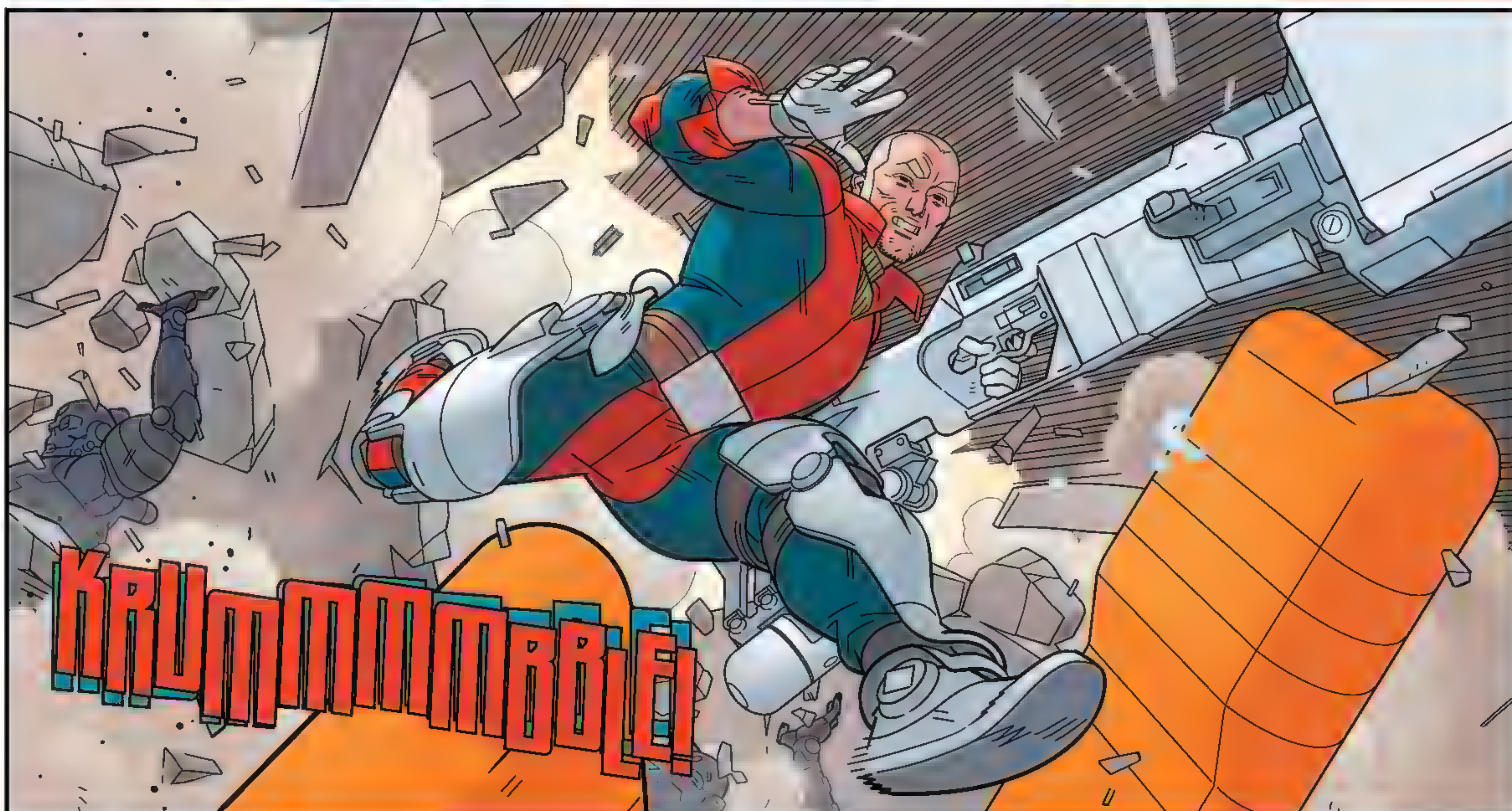
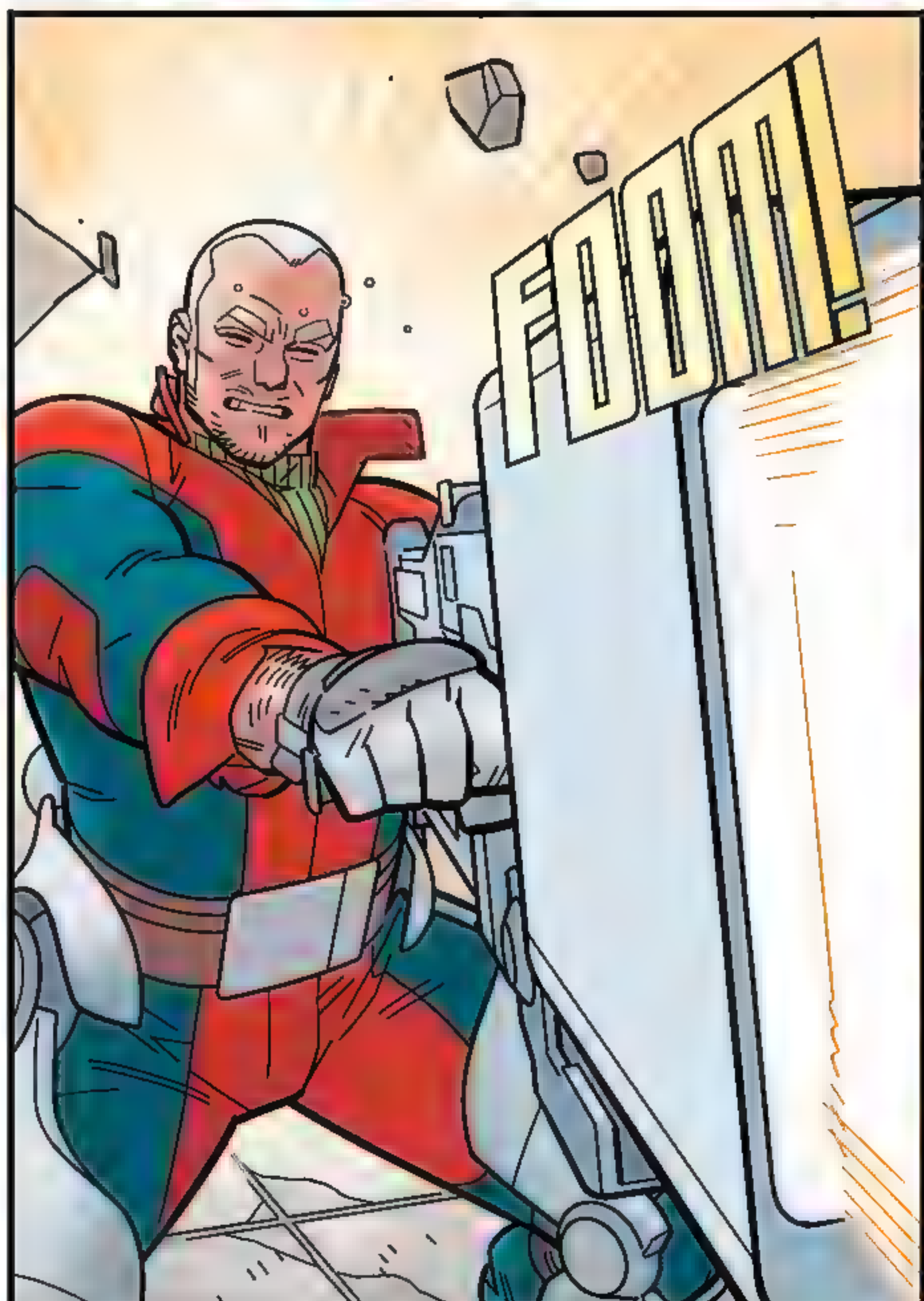


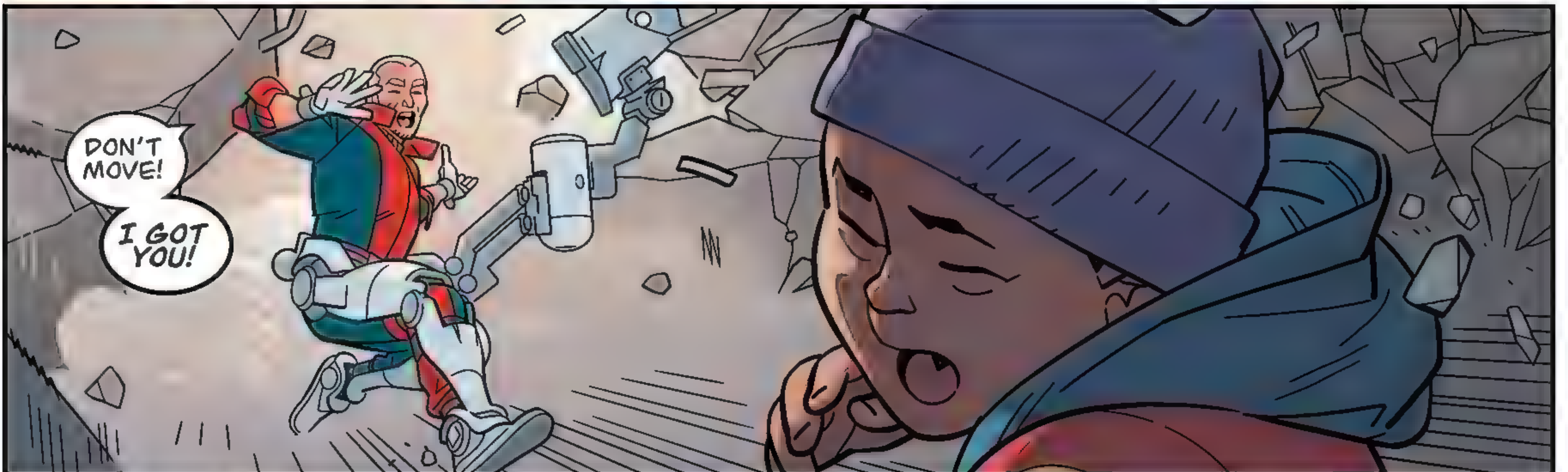
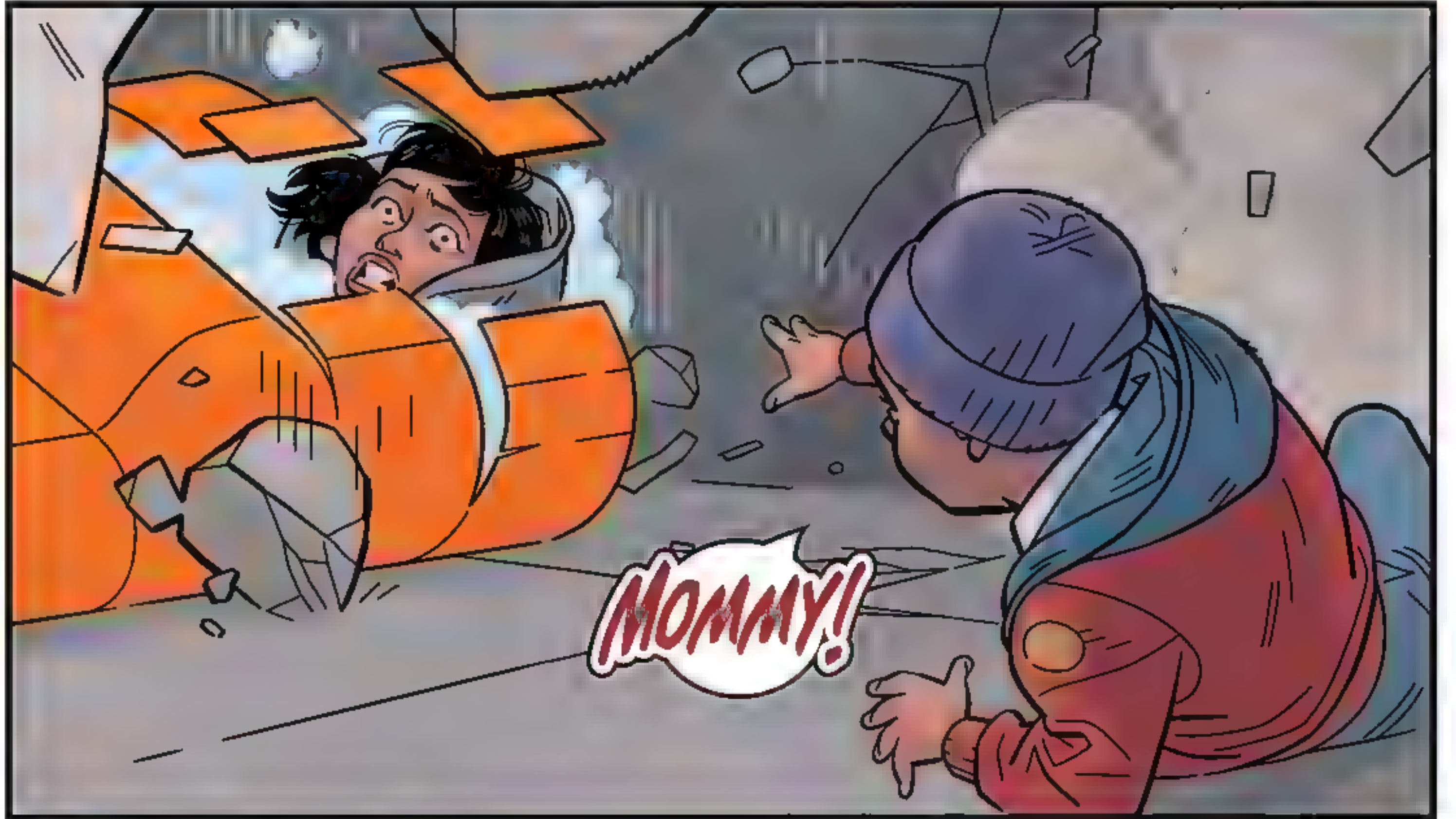
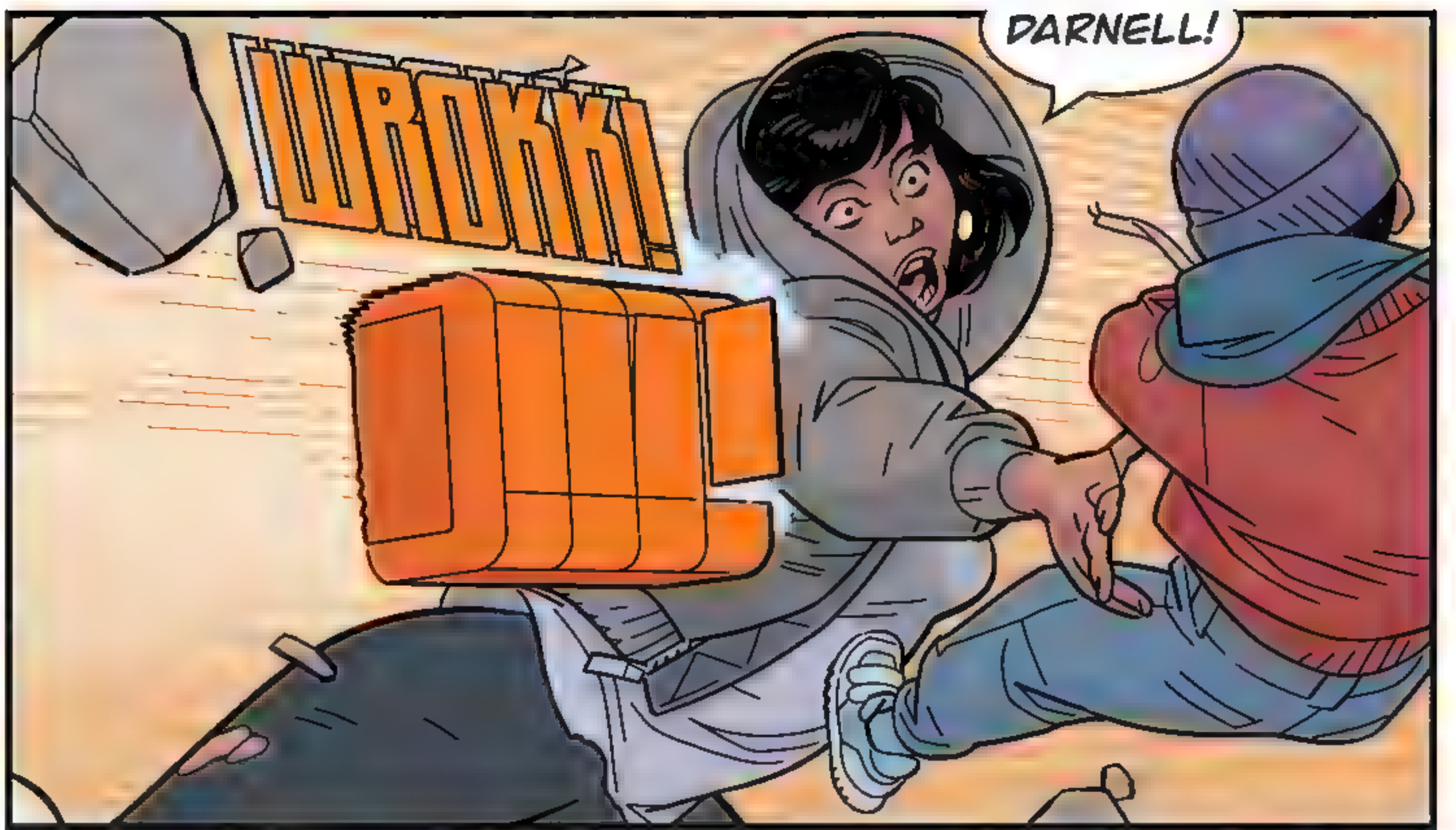


RUN
TO ME!

HURRY!

LIFELINE







DO YOU KNOW HOW
MANY PEOPLE DIED
IN THIS INVASION
ATTEMPT?

ONE THOUSAND,
FIVE HUNDRED
AND THIRTEEN...
WORLDWIDE.

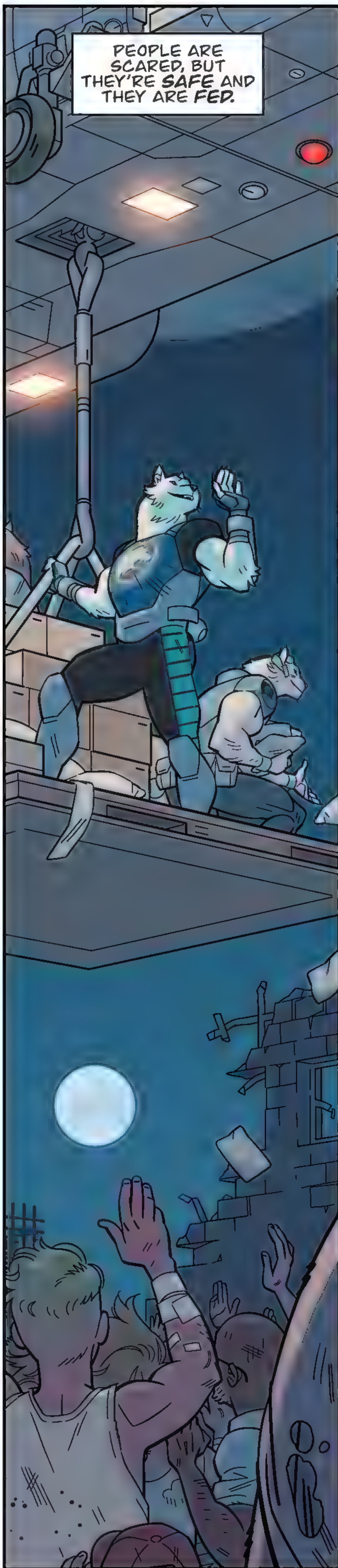


I DON'T MEAN TO BE PROUD
OF THE DEATHS OF SO
MANY PEOPLE... BUT THAT
IS AN ACHIEVEMENT THAT
SHOULD BE **RECOGNIZED**.

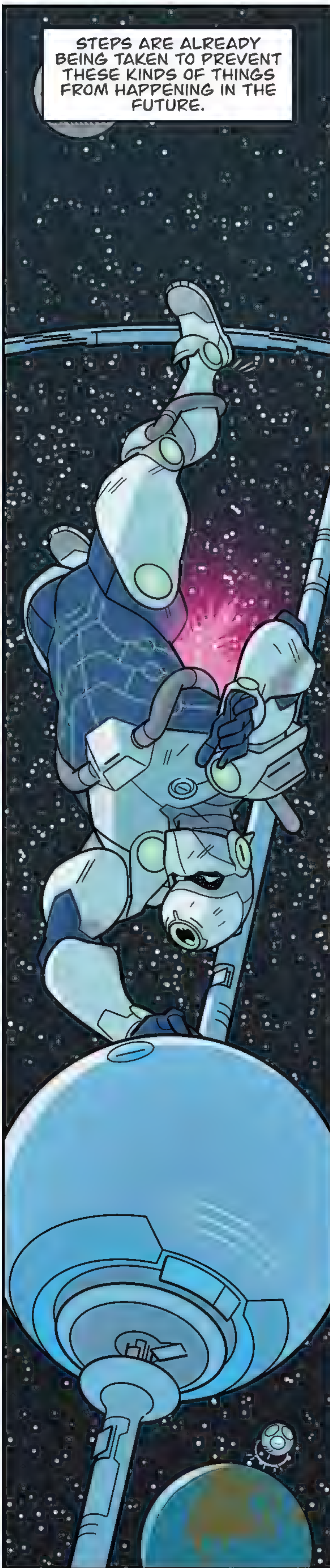


WE'RE ONLY A **WEEK** INTO
CLEANUP AND ALREADY
THE REBUILDING PROCESS
IS WELL UNDERWAY.

PEOPLE ARE
SCARED, BUT
THEY'RE **SAFE** AND
THEY ARE **FED**.

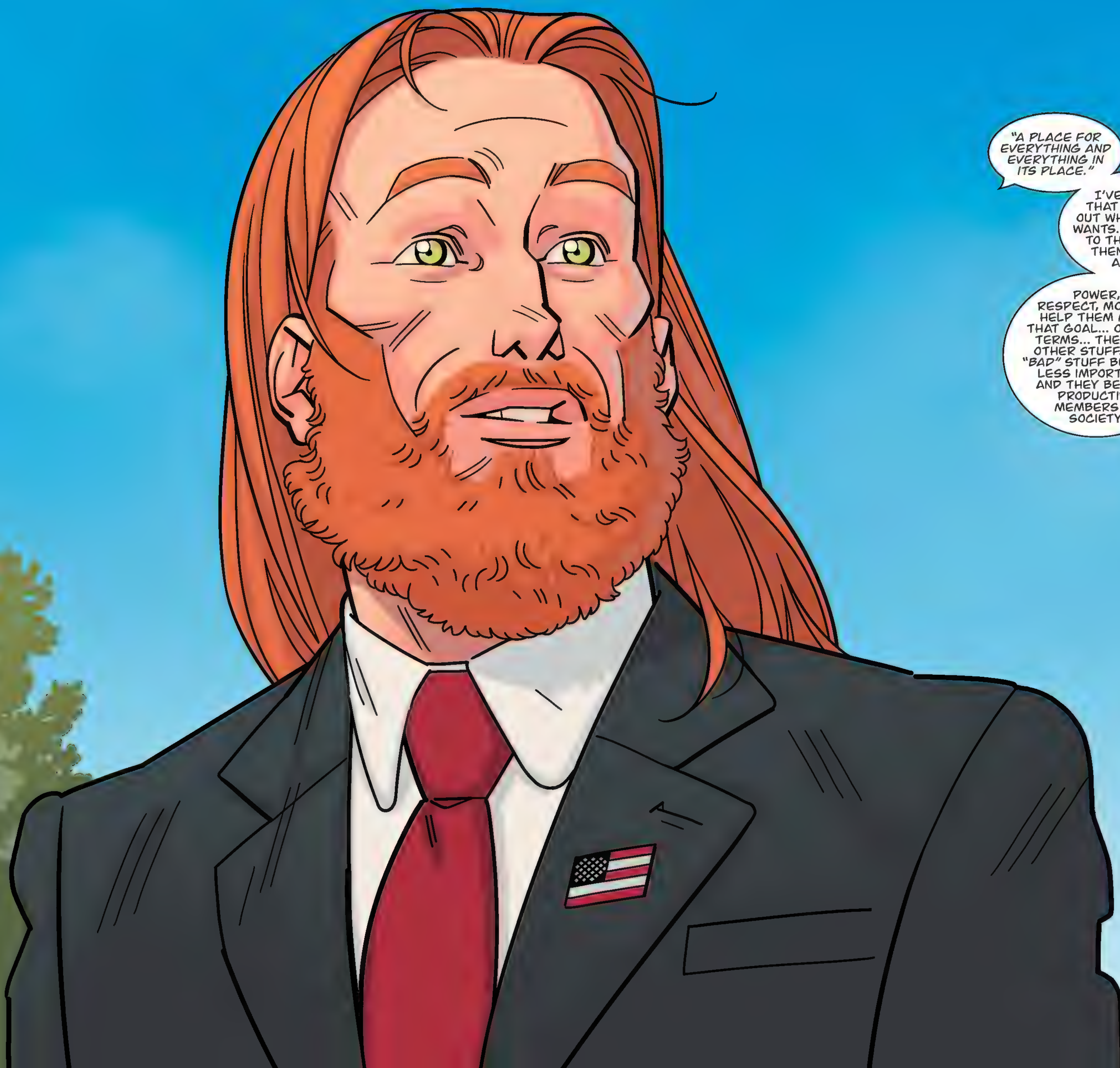


STEPS ARE ALREADY
BEING TAKEN TO PREVENT
THESE KINDS OF THINGS
FROM HAPPENING IN THE
FUTURE.



AND IT'S NOT JUST THE ONES
YOU KNEW AS HEROES WHO ARE
HELPING IN THE EFFORTS. EVEN
THE **VILLAINS** HAVE UNITED
UNDER MY LEADERSHIP FOR THE
GOOD OF ALL.





"A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING AND EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE."

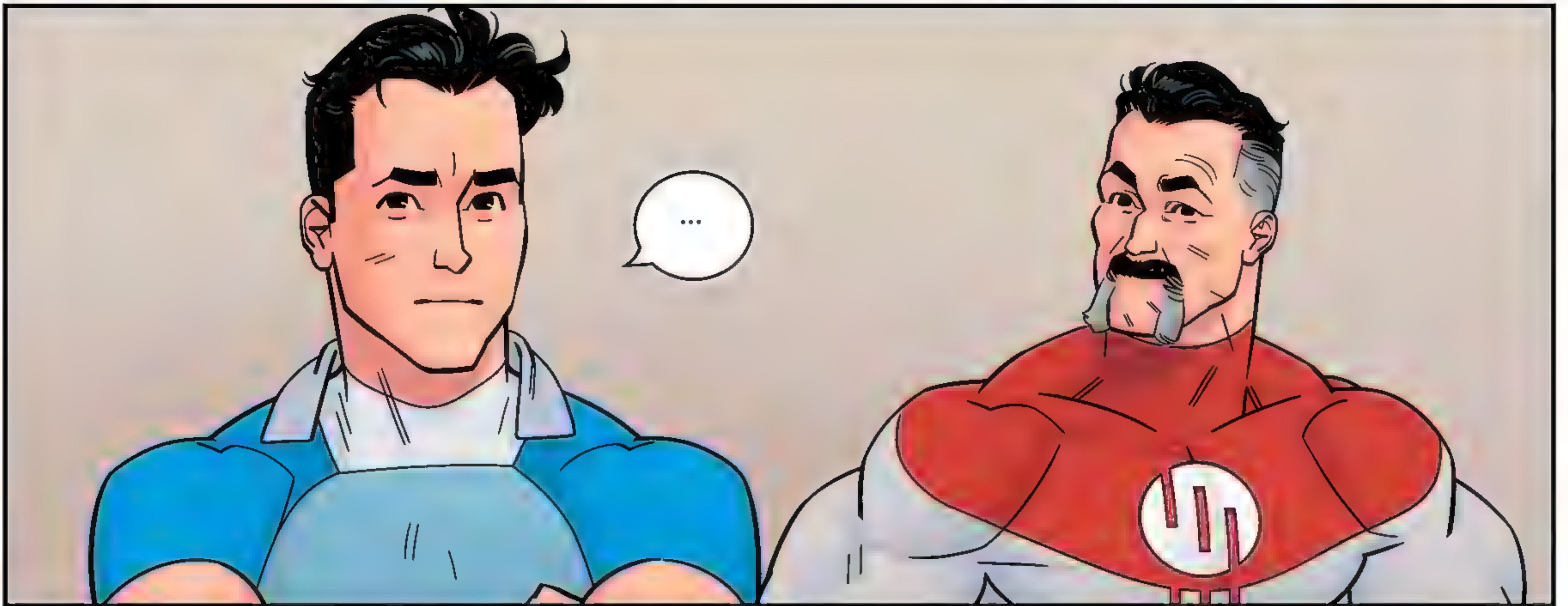
I'VE LEARNED THAT IF YOU FIND OUT WHAT A VILLAIN WANTS... AND GIVE IT TO THEM... WELL, THEN YOU HAVE AN ALLY.

POWER, RESPECT, MONEY? HELP THEM MEET THAT GOAL... ON YOUR TERMS... THEN THE OTHER STUFF... THE "BAD" STUFF BECOMES LESS IMPORTANT... AND THEY BECOME PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

I'M GLAD TO SAY AS TIME GOES ON, MORE AND MORE OF OUR FRIENDS ARE STARTING TO SEE THINGS MY WAY. AFTER ALL, YOU CAN'T ARGUE WITH RESULTS.

THERE ARE STILL A FEW HOLDOUTS. BUT THEY DON'T INTERFERE, THEY KEEP THEIR DISTANCE. AND IN THE CASE OF MONSTER GIRL AND MONAX... THEY EVEN PITCH IN AND HELP WHEN NEEDED.

DON'T LET THE CURRENT STATE OF THINGS FOOL YOU. PEOPLE ARE HAPPY. LIFE IS GOOD.





I TRUST
YOU STILL
HAVE YOUR
EARPIECE?

I CAN
HEAR YOU,
YES.



YOU CAN'T REALLY BE
TAKING THAT AT FACE
VALUE. HE'S IN CHARGE
OF AN ENTIRE PLANET.
HE **KILLED** SO MANY
PEOPLE.



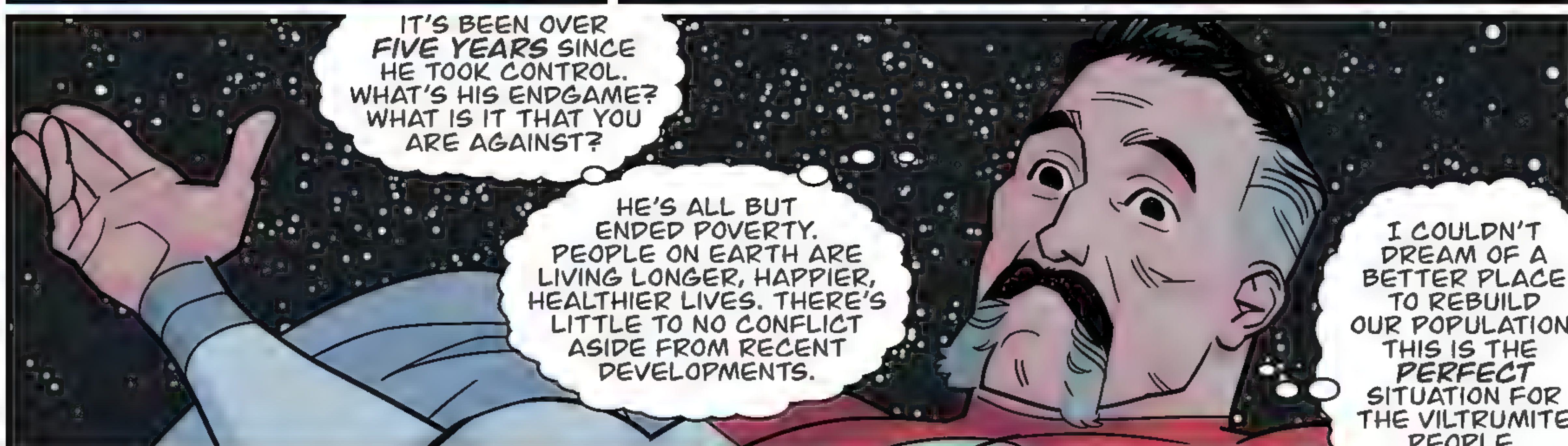
I KNOW
HOW YOU FEEL
ABOUT HIM.
BELIEVE
ME.

EVE IS
THE SAME WAY.
IT WAS HARD
TO GET HER TO
COME VISIT WHEN
YOU WERE...
AWAY.



MARK,
PLEASE. LISTEN
TO THE MAN.
LOOK AT WHAT
HE'S DONE.

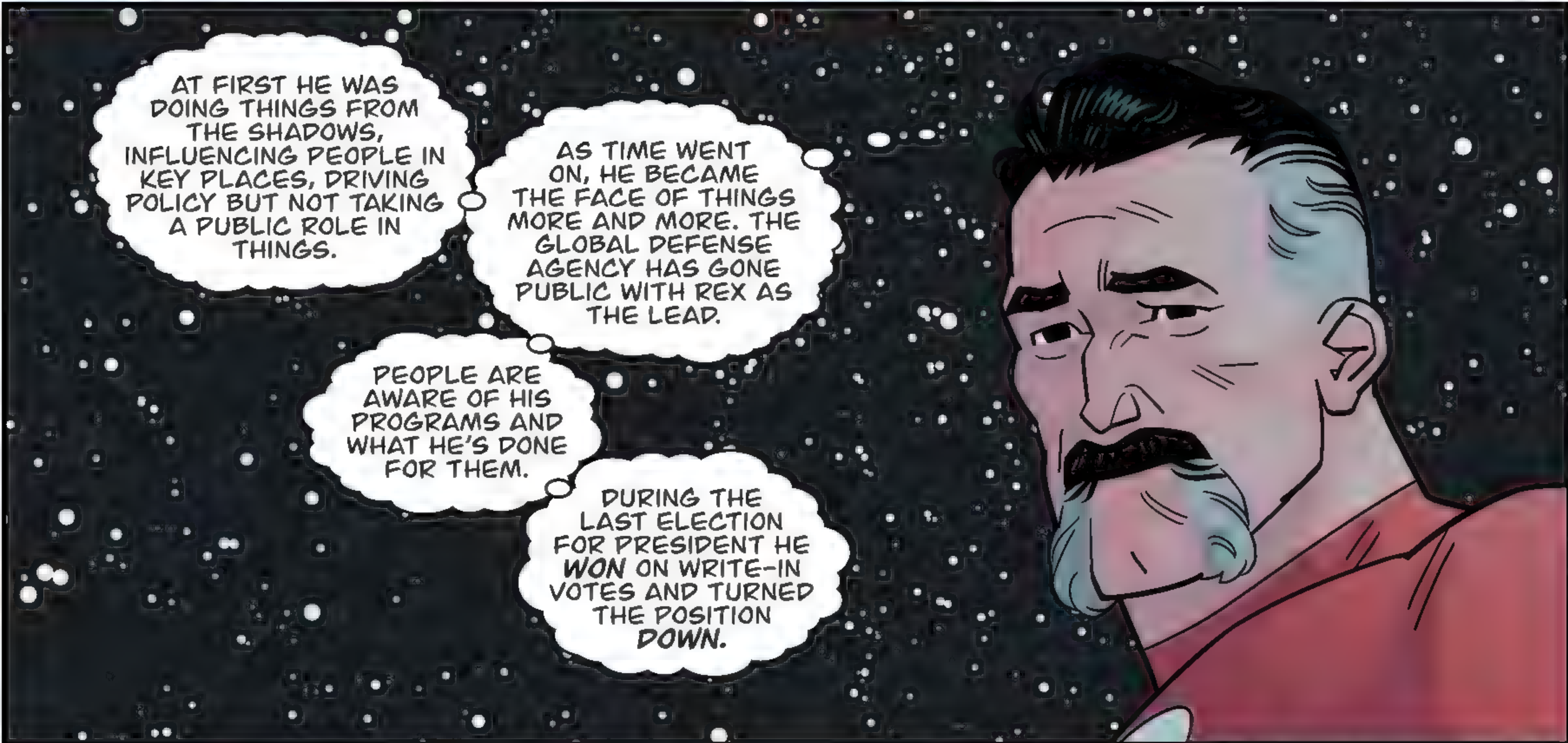
THINK
ABOUT THIS
RATIONALLY
AND WITHOUT
EMOTION.



IT'S BEEN OVER
FIVE YEARS SINCE
HE TOOK CONTROL.
WHAT'S HIS ENDGAME?
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU
ARE AGAINST?

HE'S ALL BUT
ENDED POVERTY.
PEOPLE ON EARTH ARE
LIVING LONGER, HAPPIER,
HEALTHIER LIVES. THERE'S
LITTLE TO NO CONFLICT
ASIDE FROM RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS.

I COULDN'T
DREAM OF A
BETTER PLACE
TO REBUILD
OUR POPULATION.
THIS IS THE
PERFECT
SITUATION FOR
THE VILTRUMITE
PEOPLE.





I AM NOT.

WHY WOULD I BE?



HOW CAN YOU NOT BE? YOU SAY THESE PEOPLE ATTACKED FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION... HOW DID THEY FIND THEIR WAY HERE?

COULD REX HAVE BROUGHT THEM HERE?



SON. YOU SOUND INSANE.

DO I? HE JUST TOLD ME THAT THE OUTCOME OF THEM INVADING WAS TO GET MORE HEROES ON HIS SIDE, AND HE'S GONE PUBLIC NOW AND EVERYONE LOVES HIM!

WHY? BECAUSE OF HOW THIS INVASION PROVED HIM RIGHT AND SHOWED HOW CAPABLE HE IS.

YOU DON'T THINK THAT'S SUSPICIOUS?!



NOT IN THE LEAST.

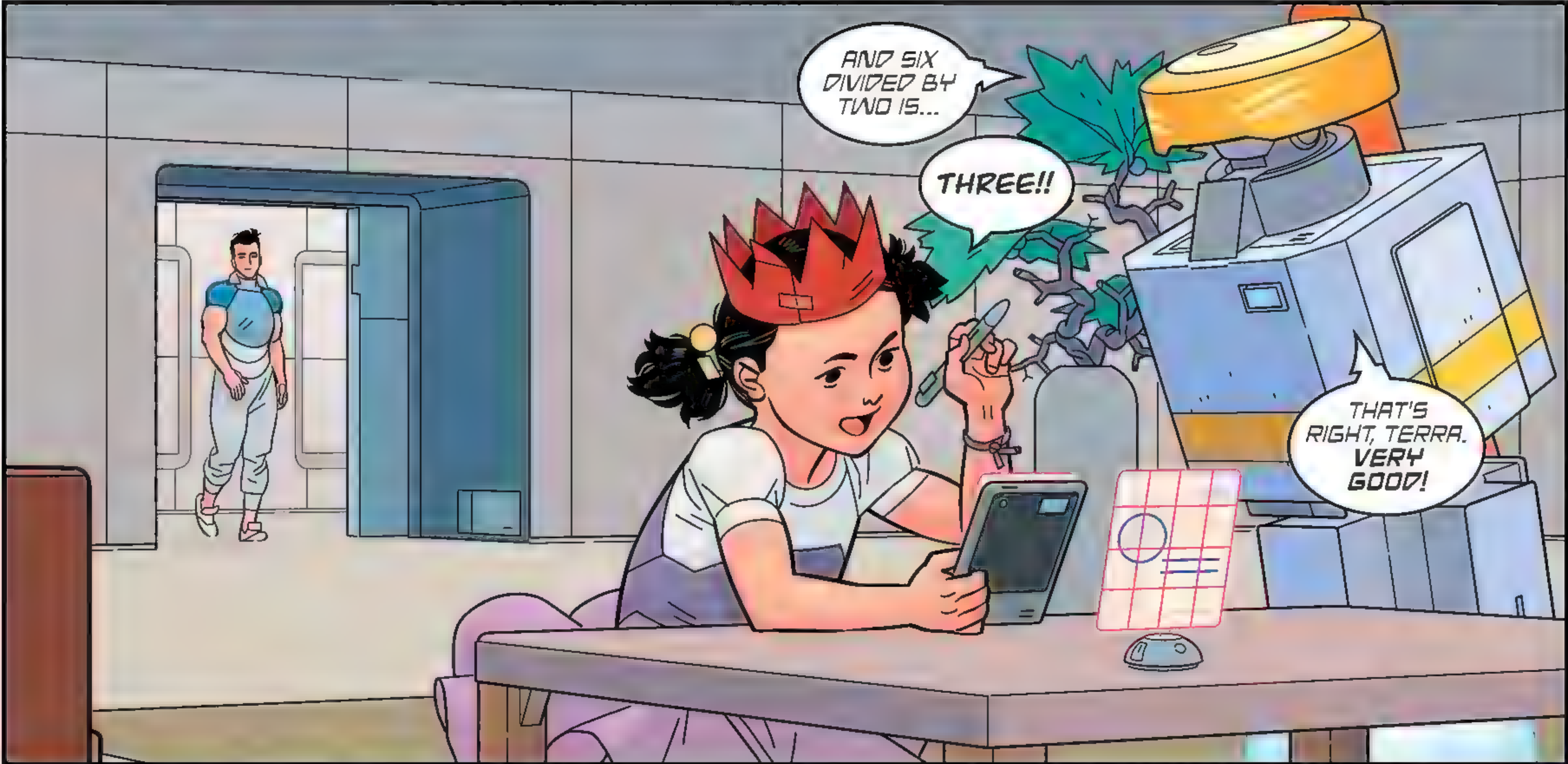
HE WAS YOUR FRIEND FOR MANY YEARS. NOW HE IS MINE. I KNOW REX IS NOT PERFECT, BUT HE IS ALWAYS WORKING FOR THE GREATER GOOD.



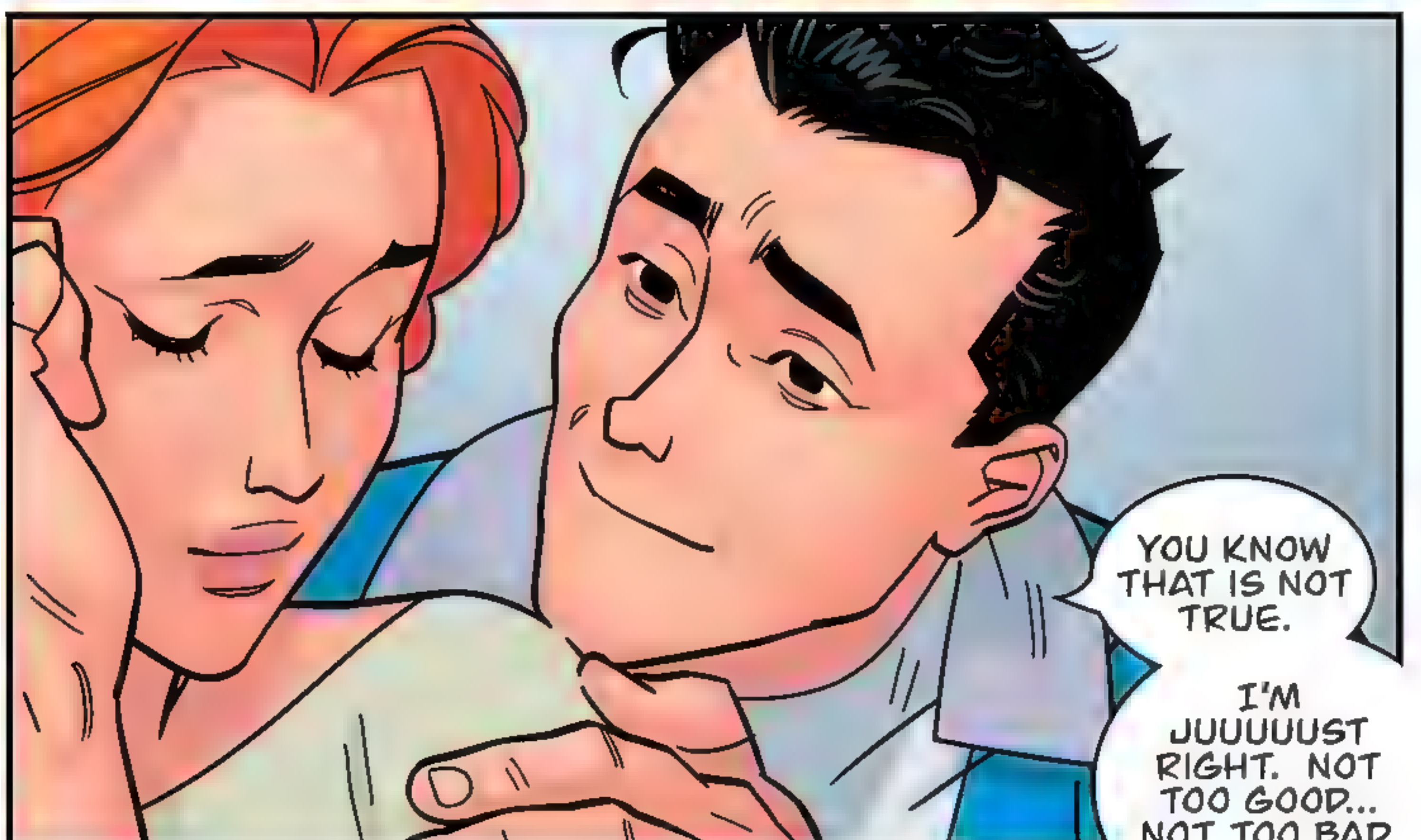
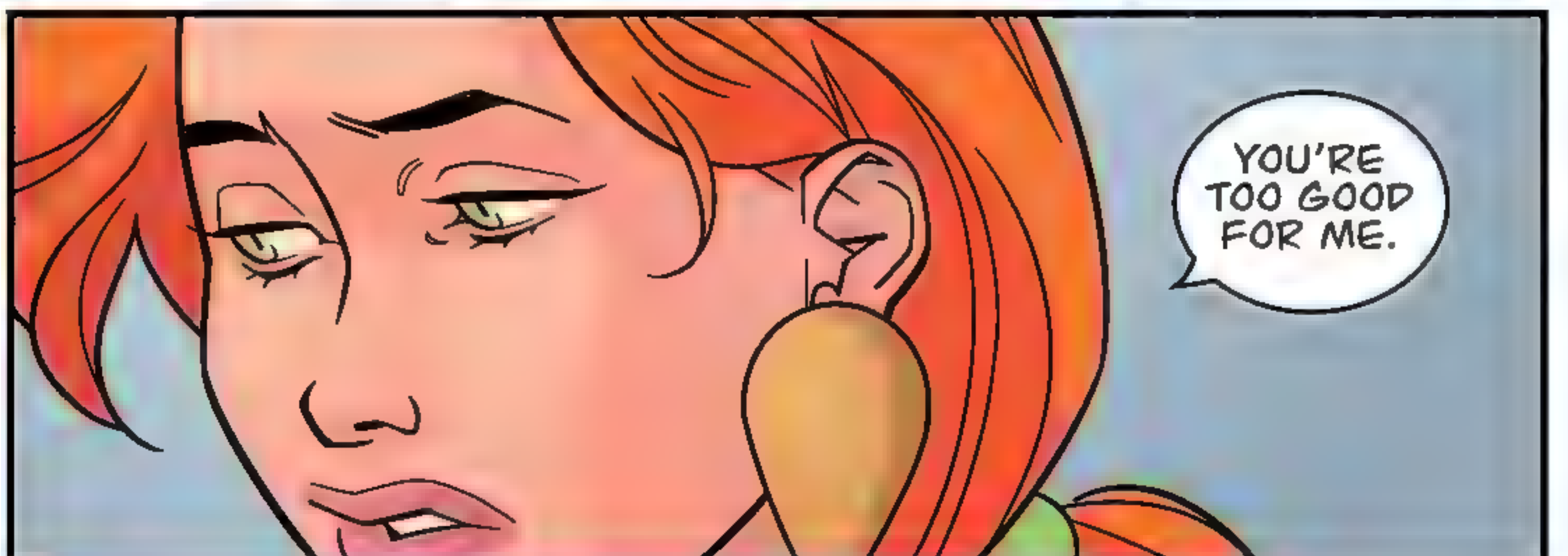
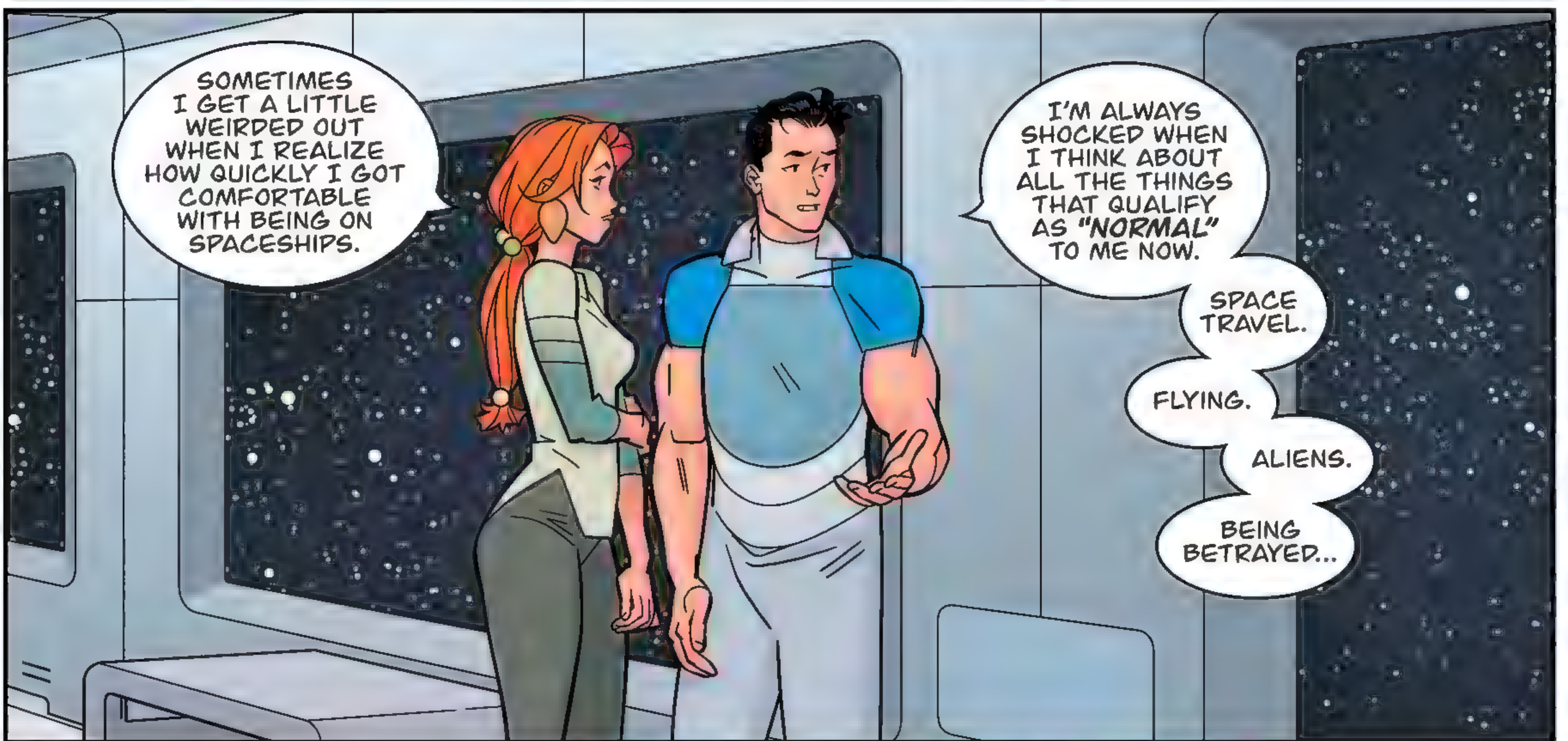
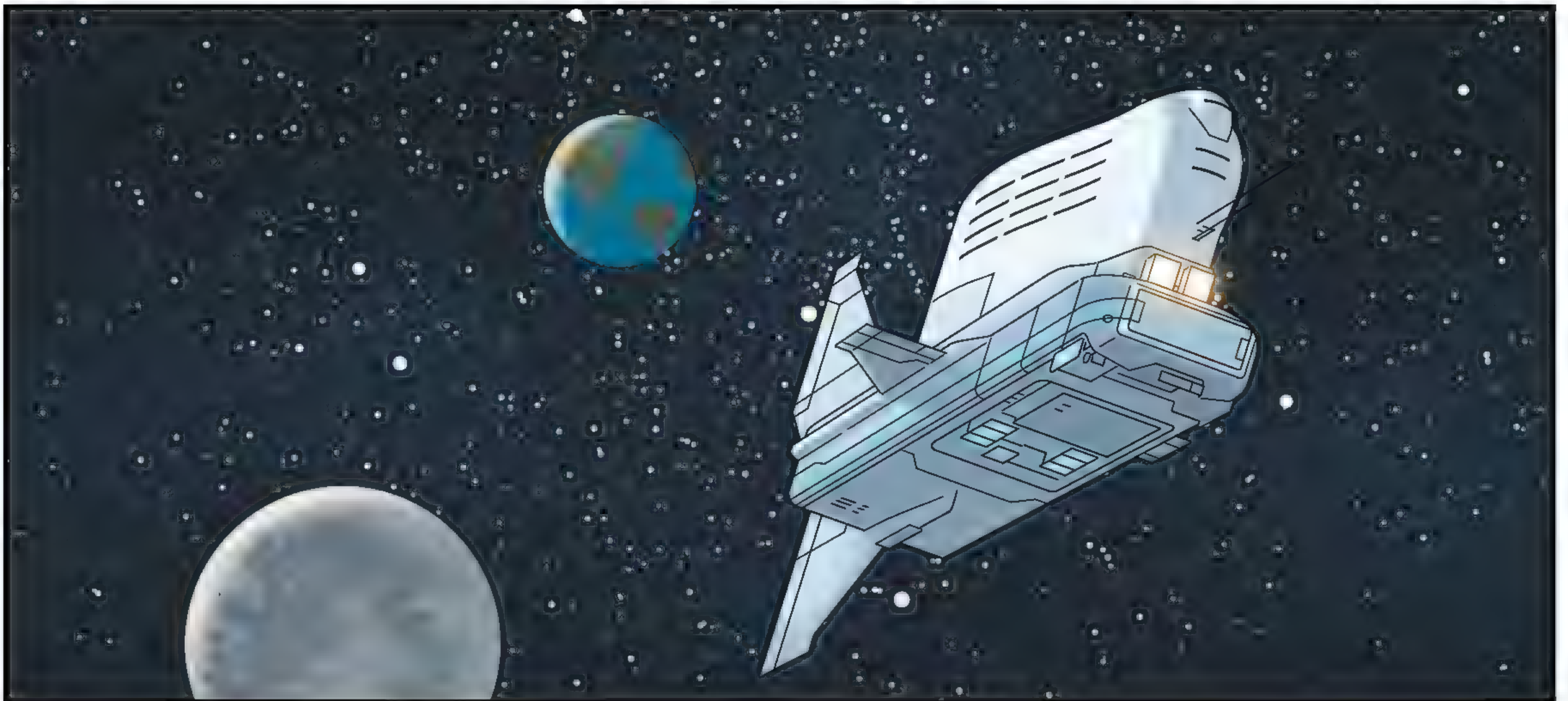
I DON'T TRUST HIM. I WILL NEVER TRUST HIM.

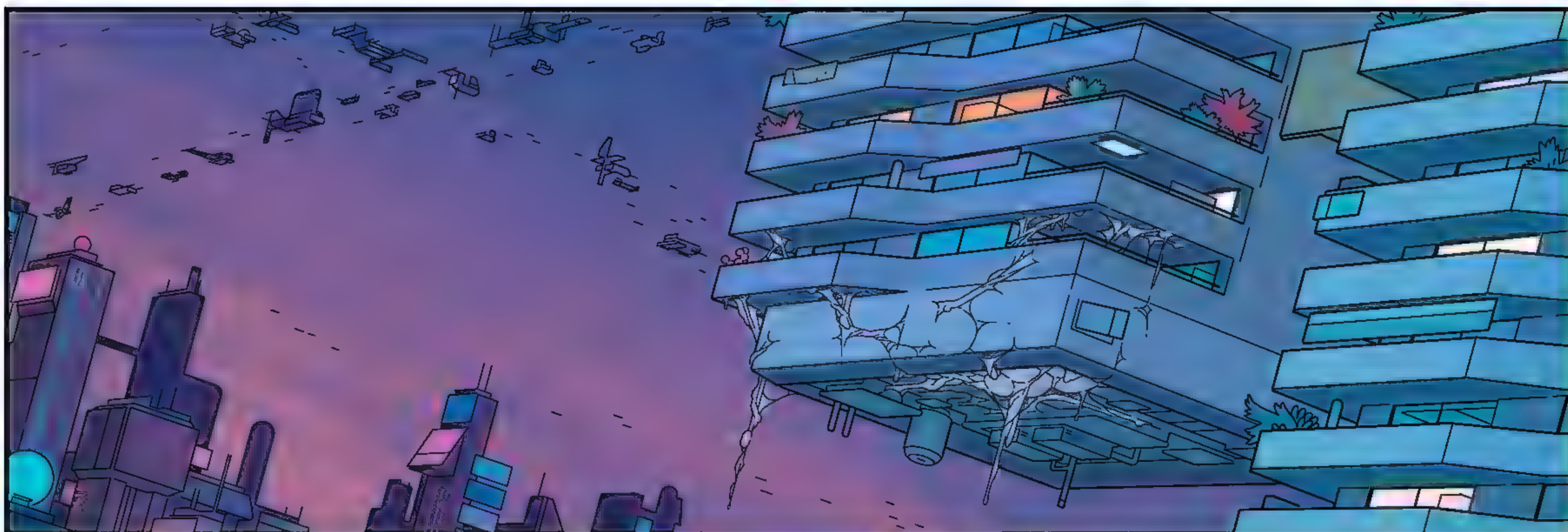
THAT'S WHY WE LEFT BEFORE...

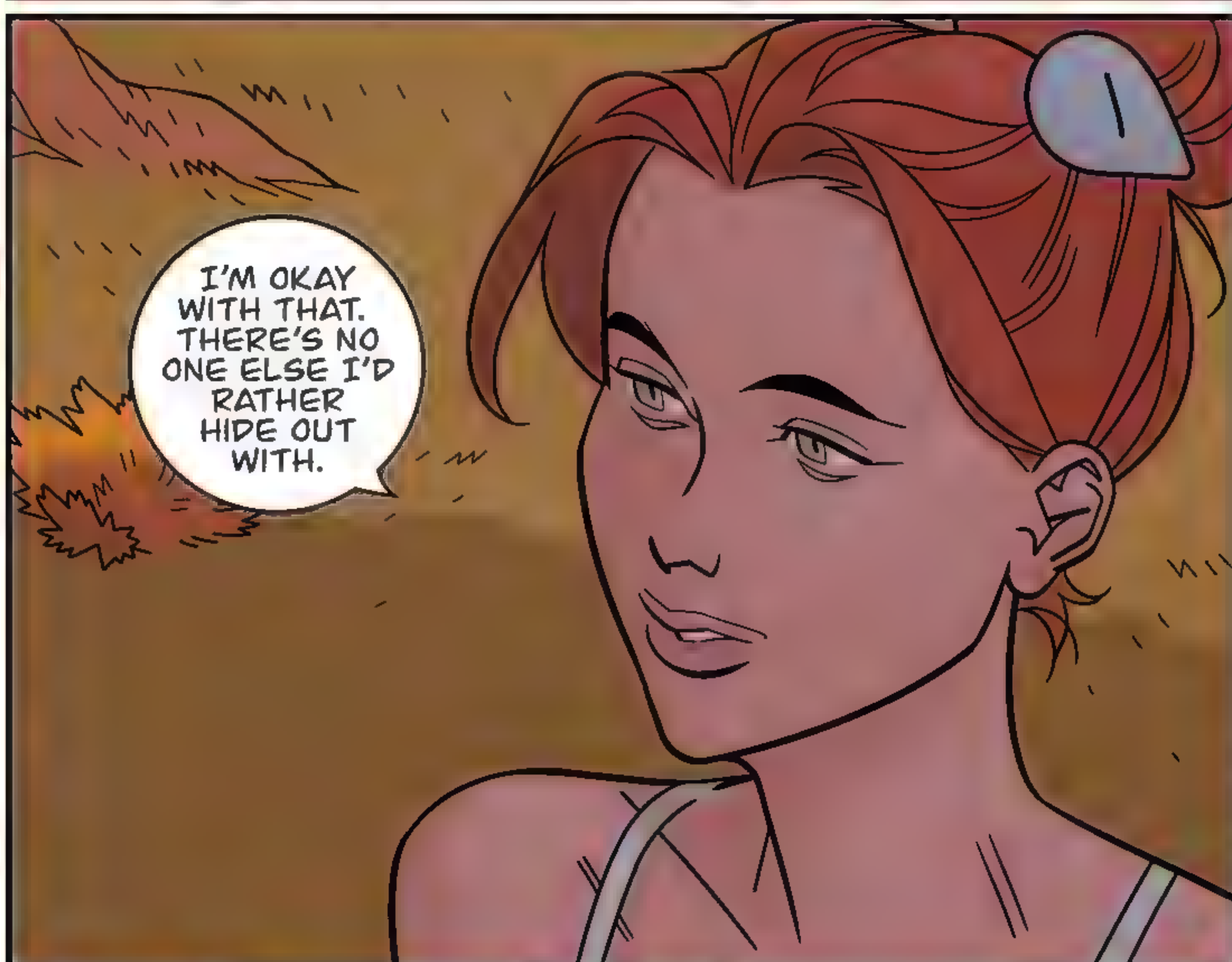
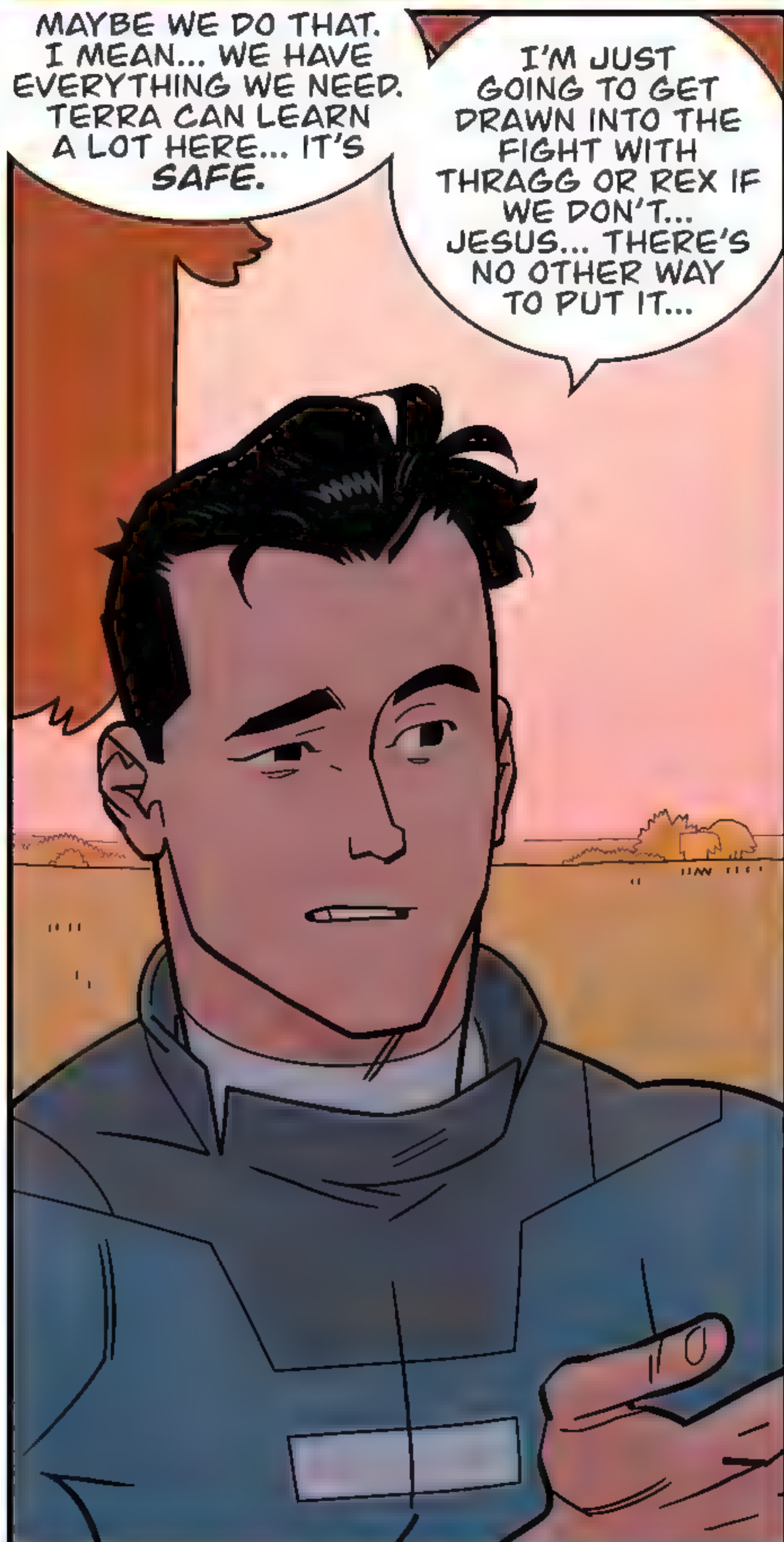
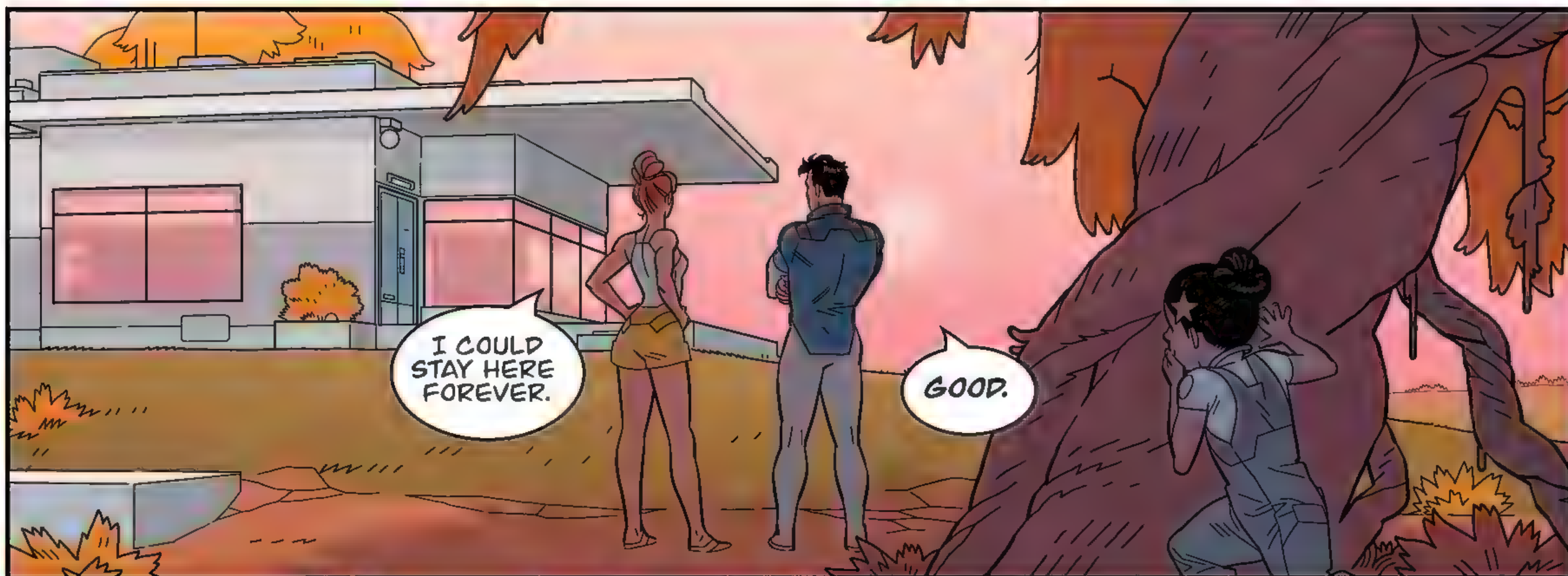
...THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO LEAVE AGAIN.

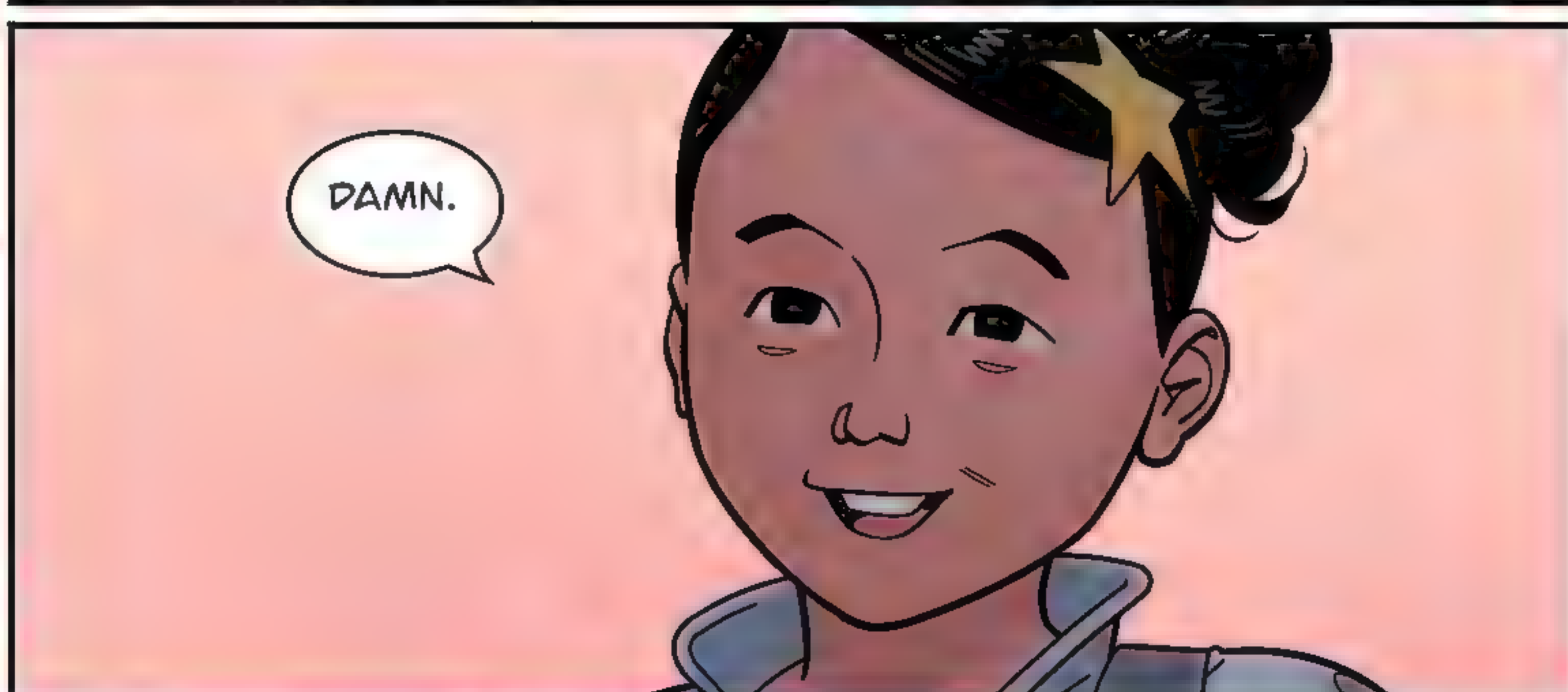
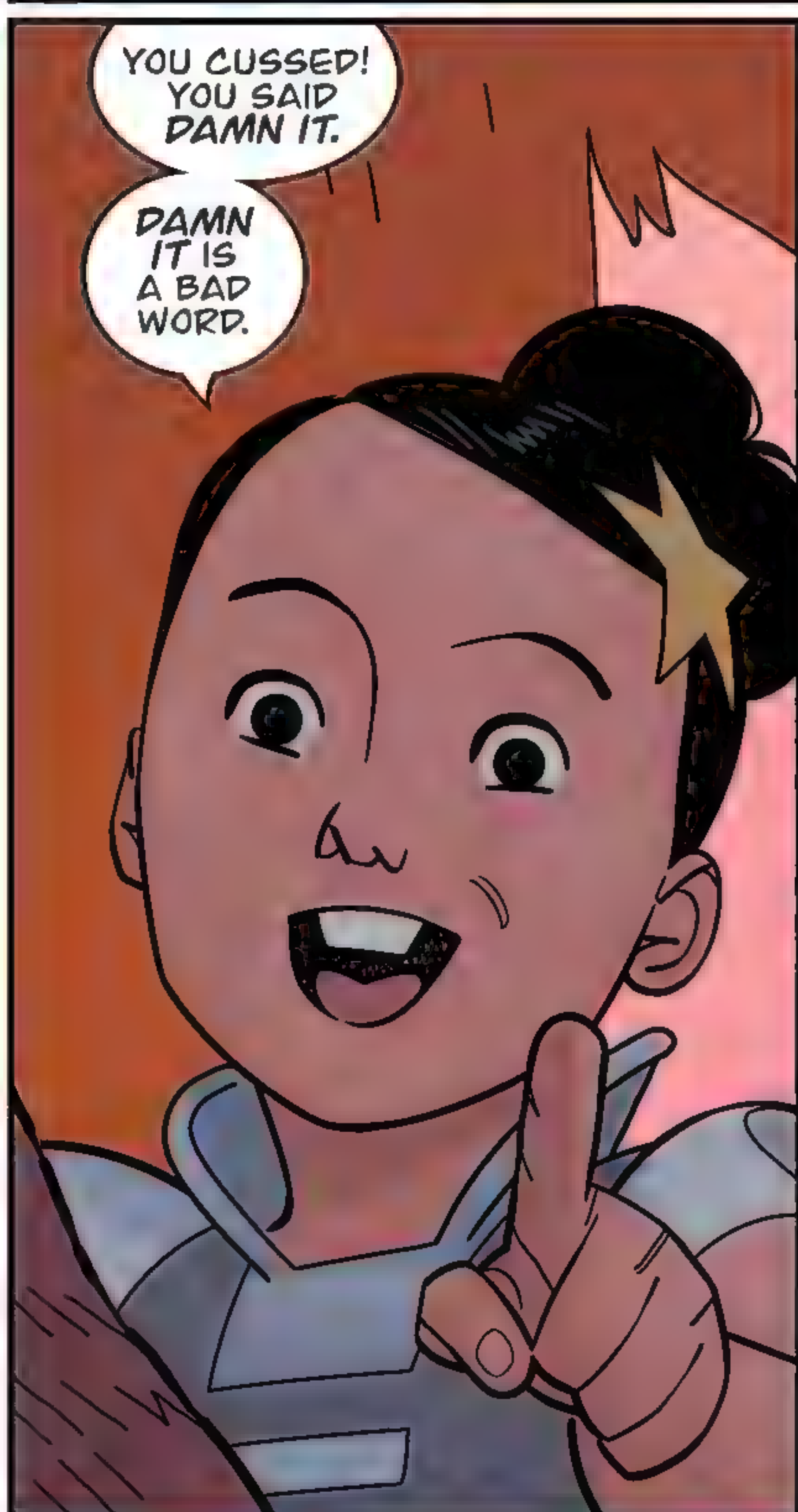


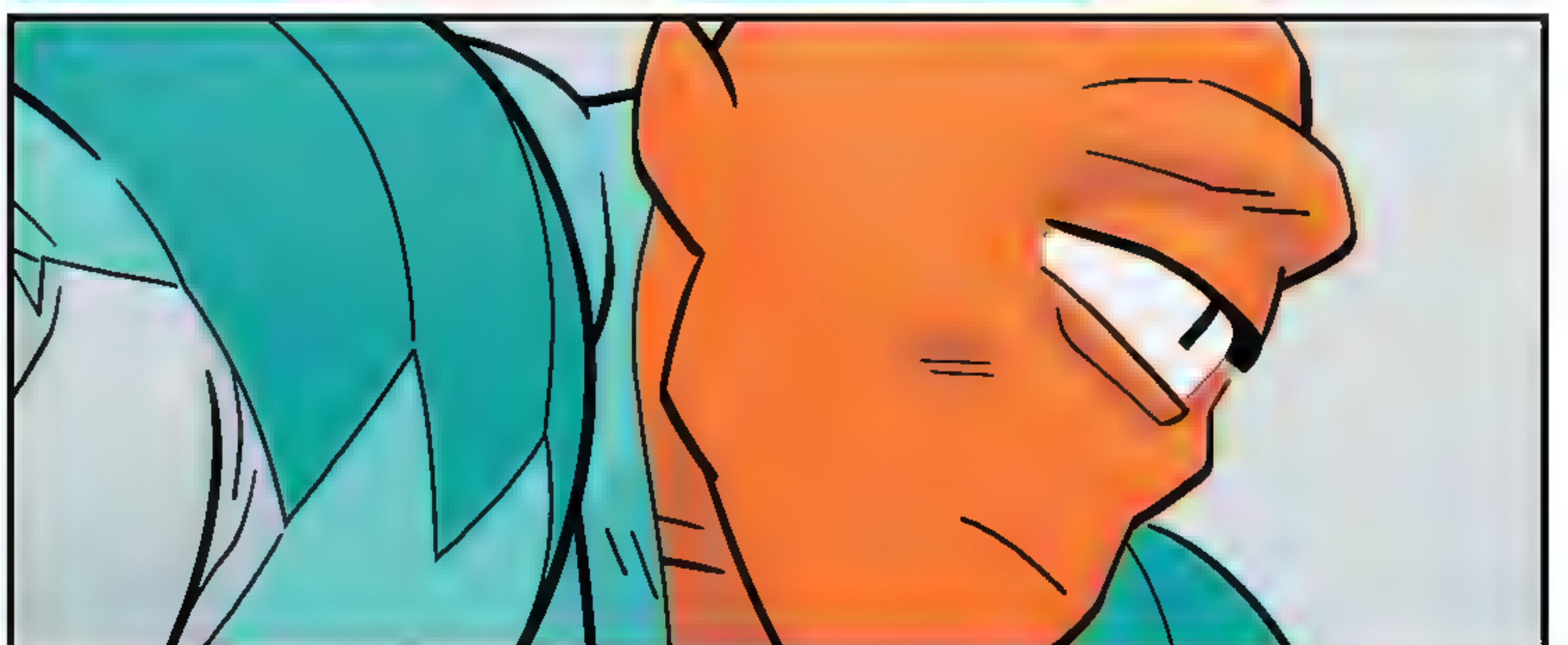
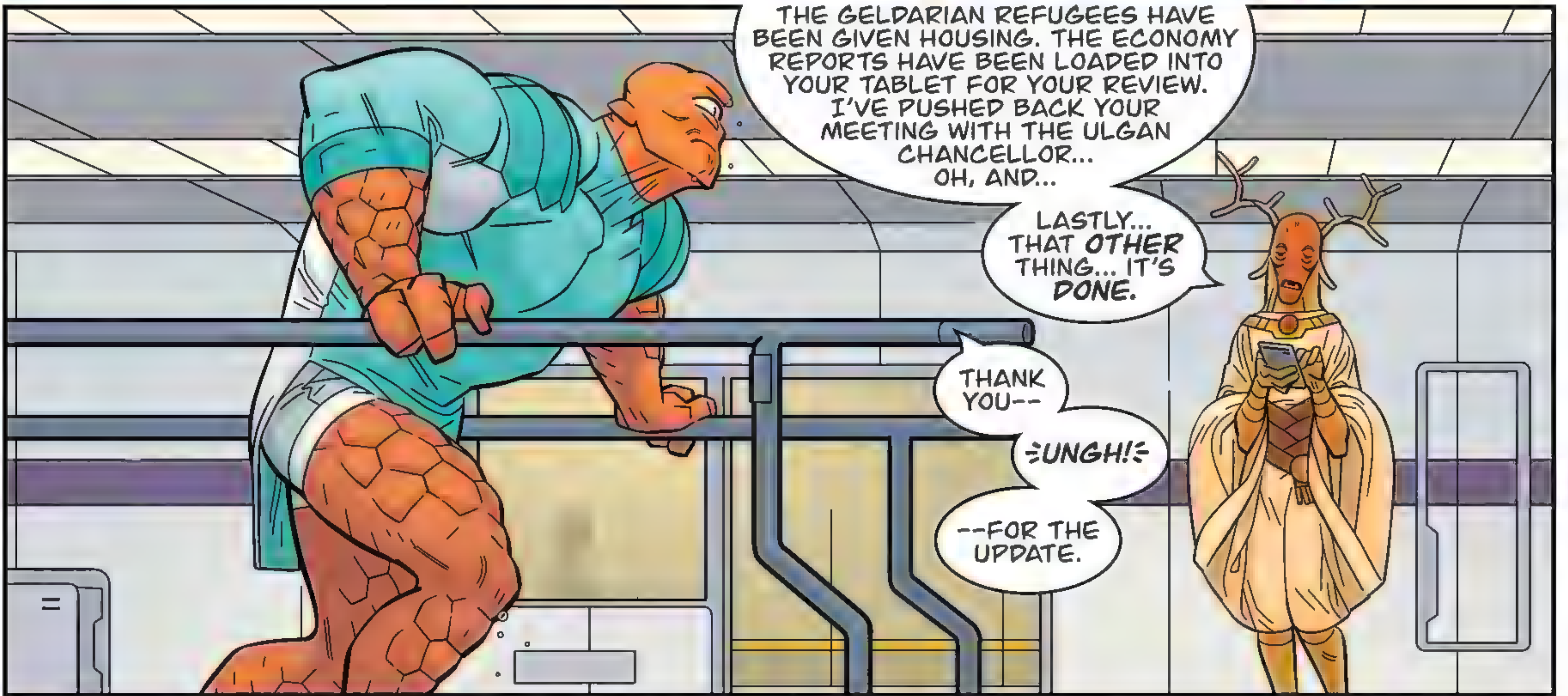
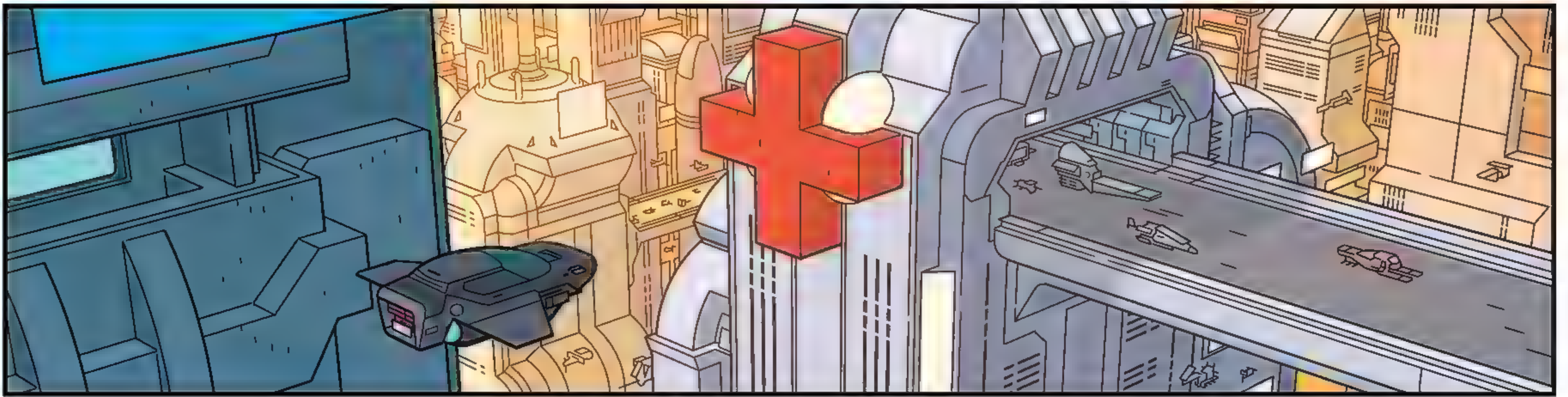


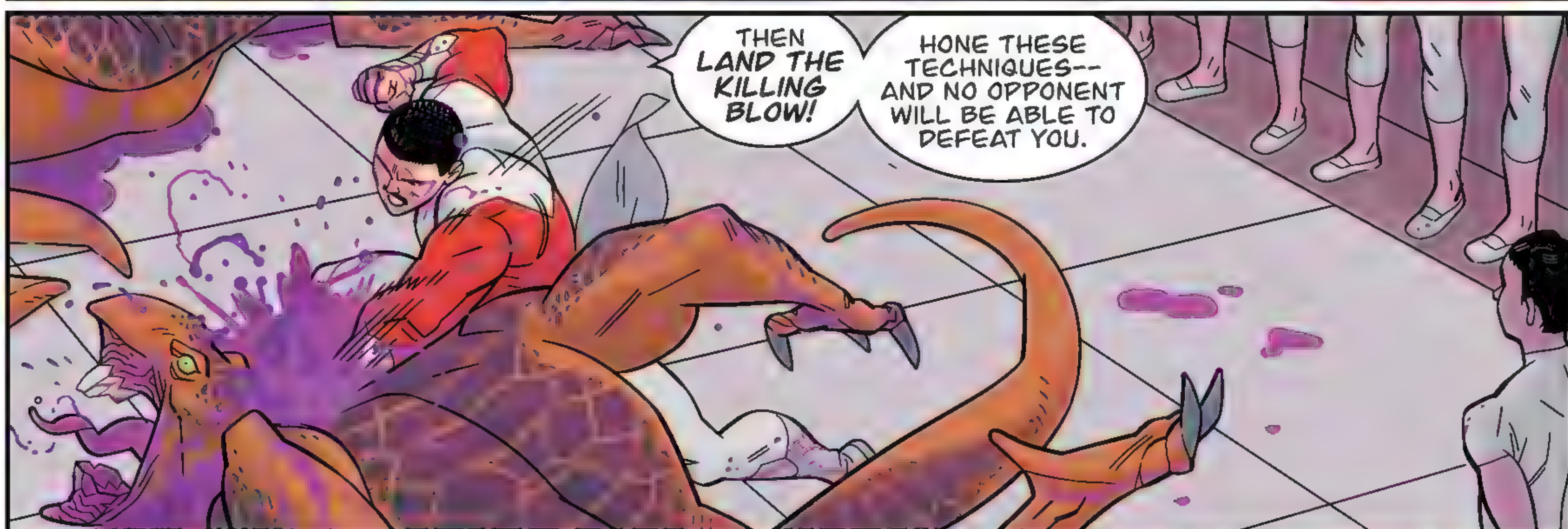




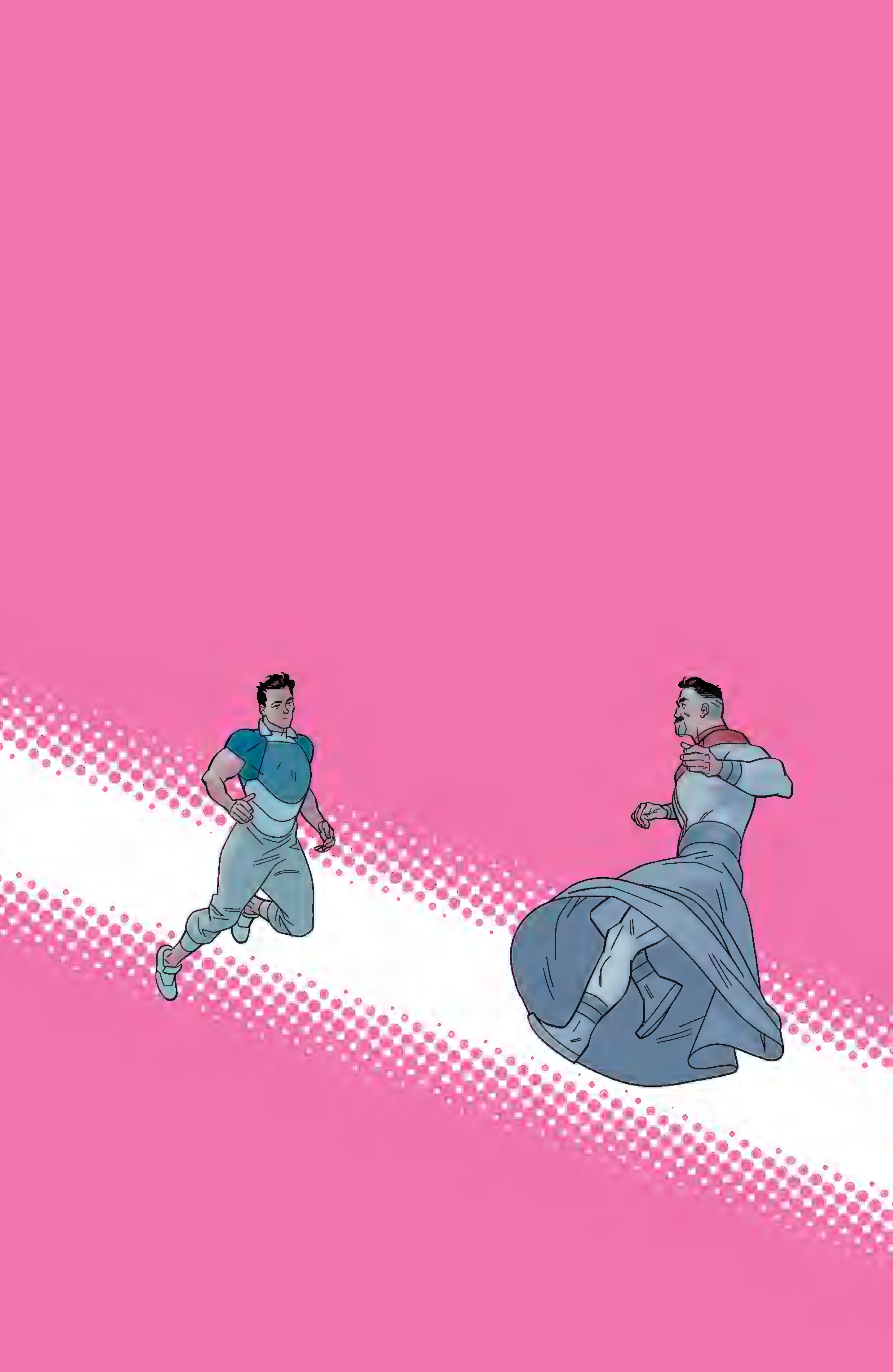






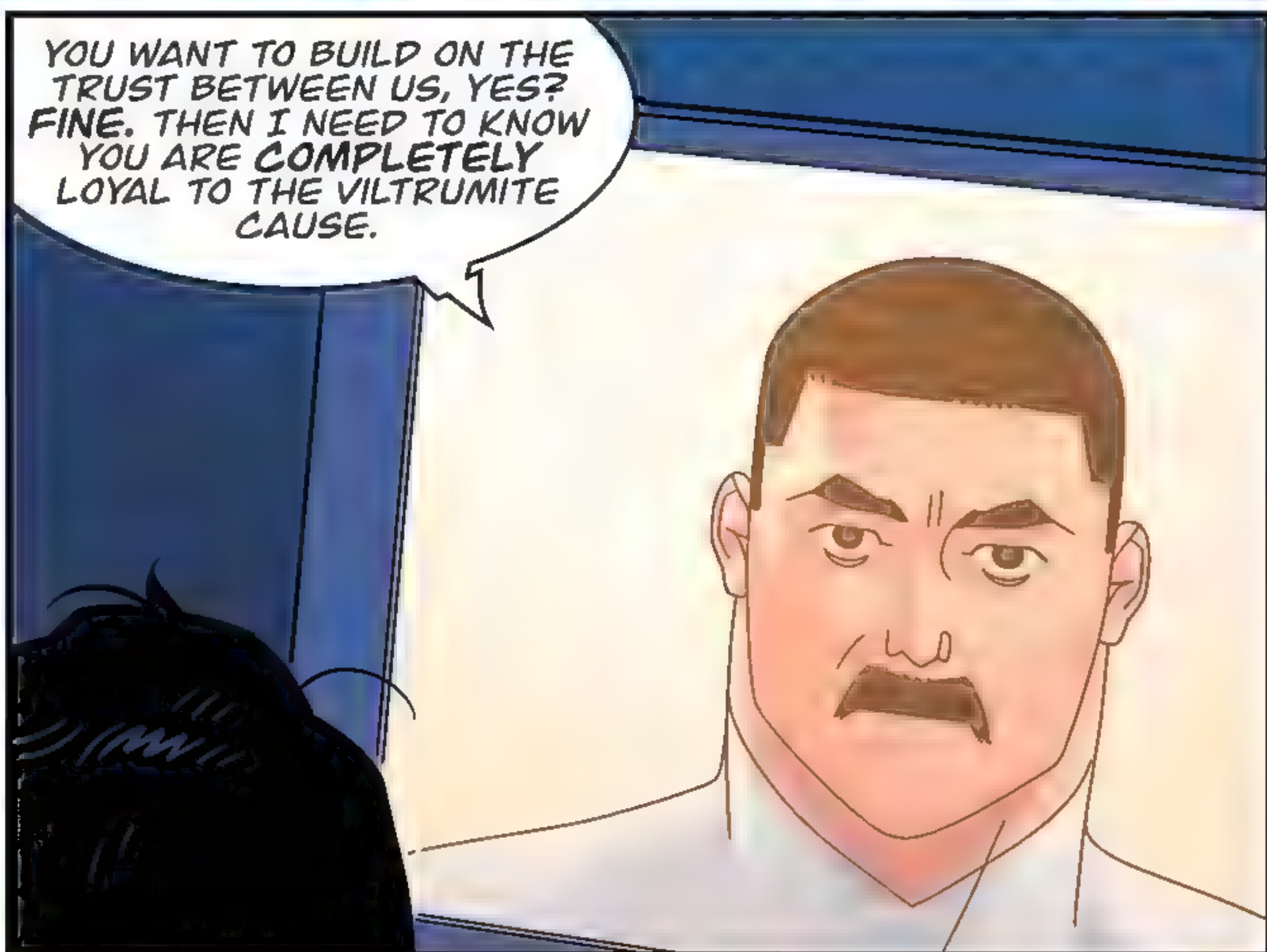
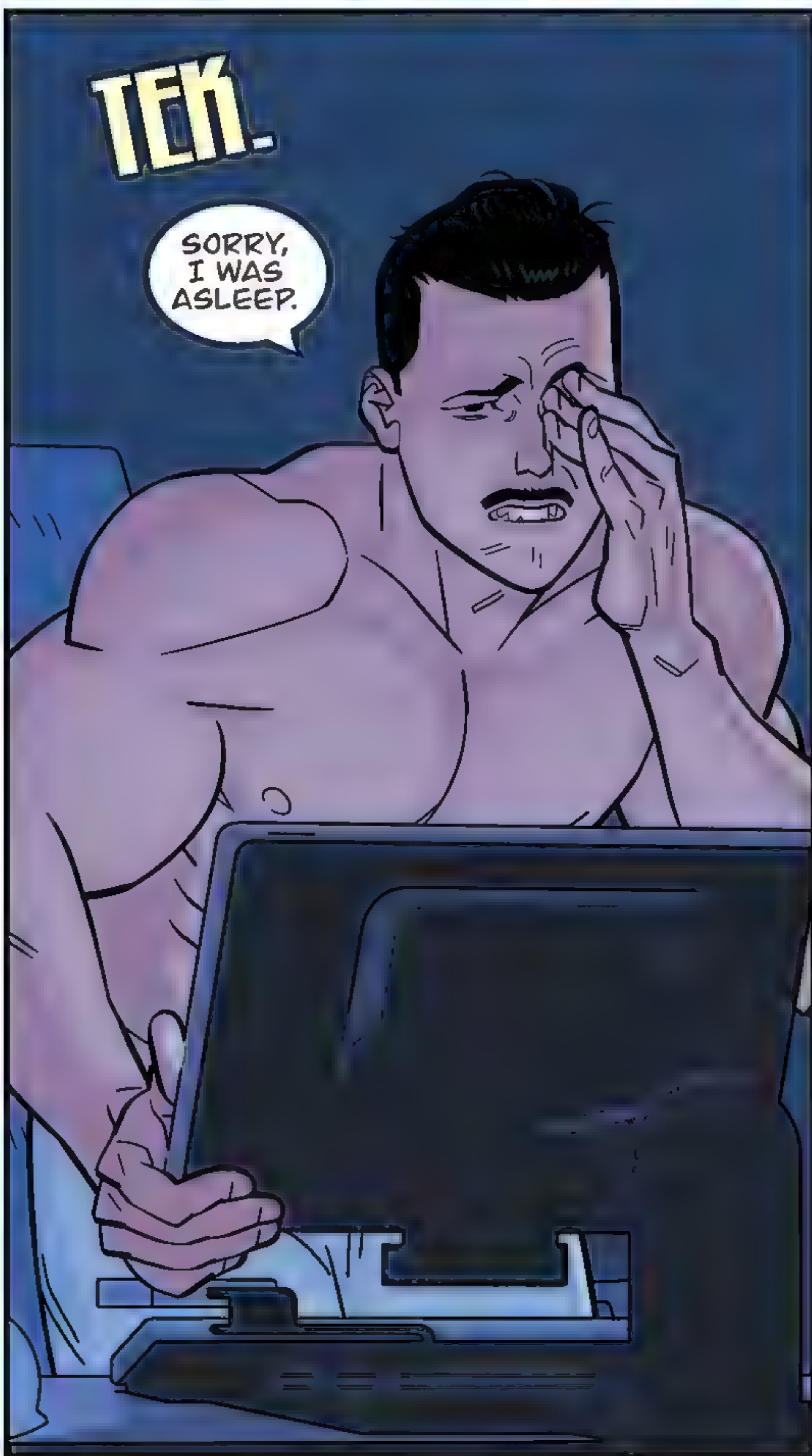
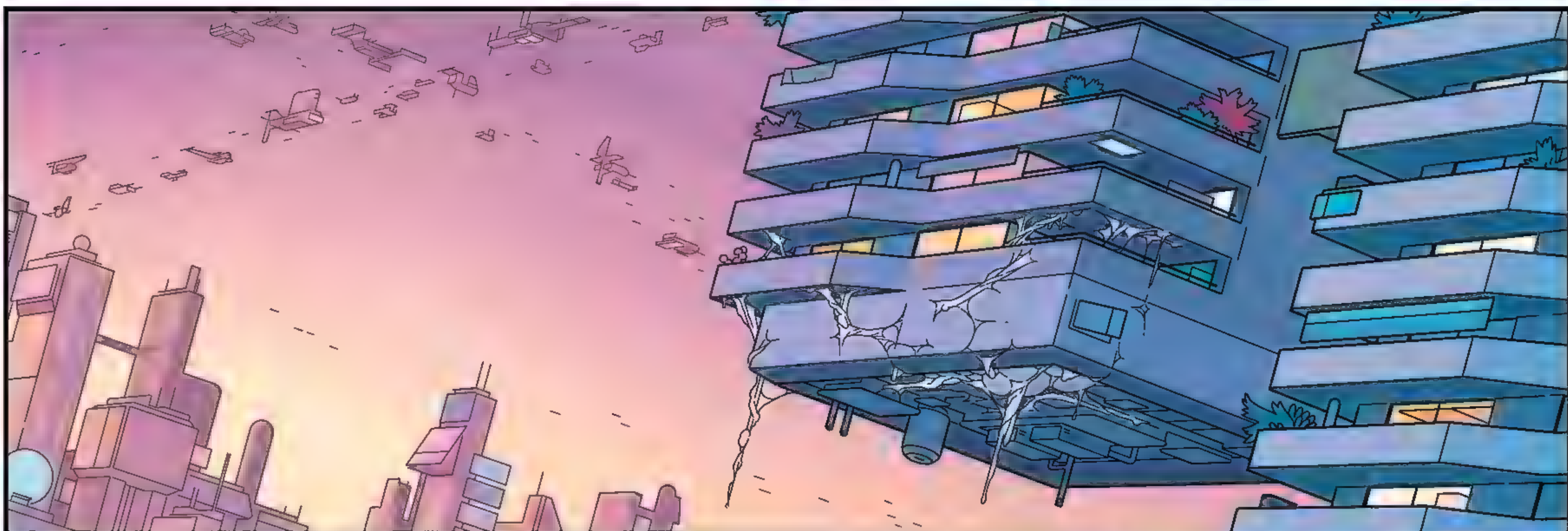


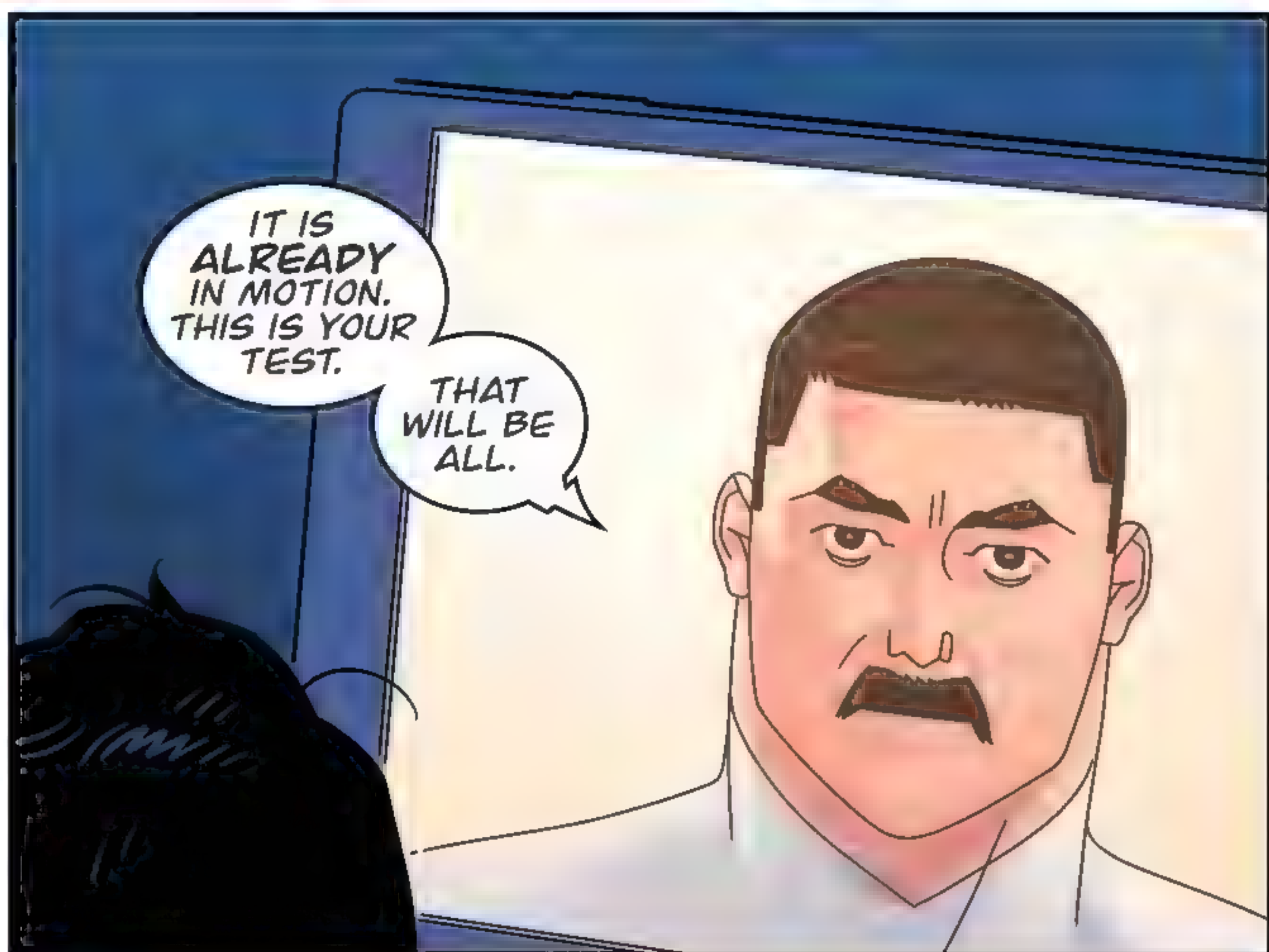


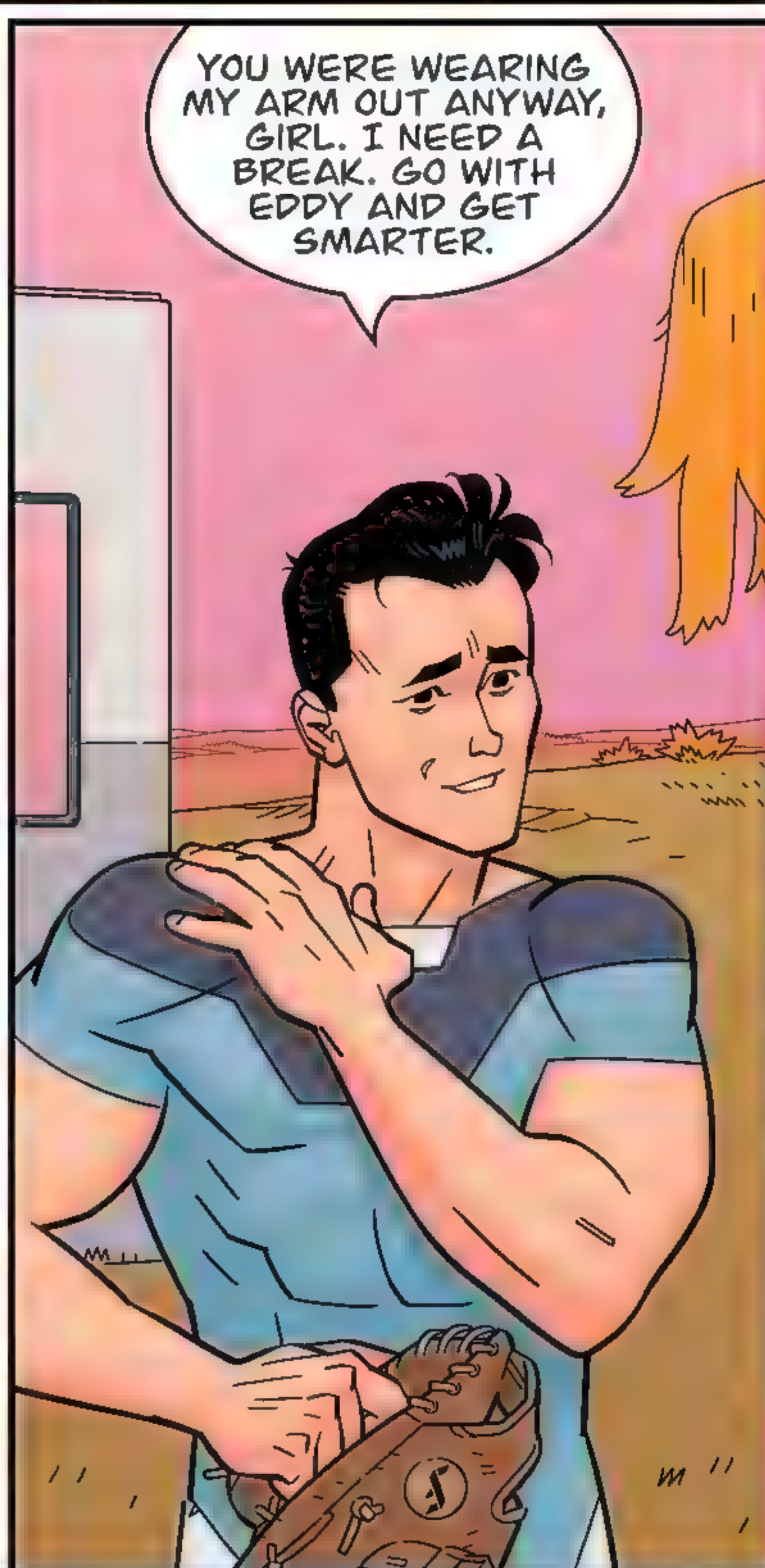
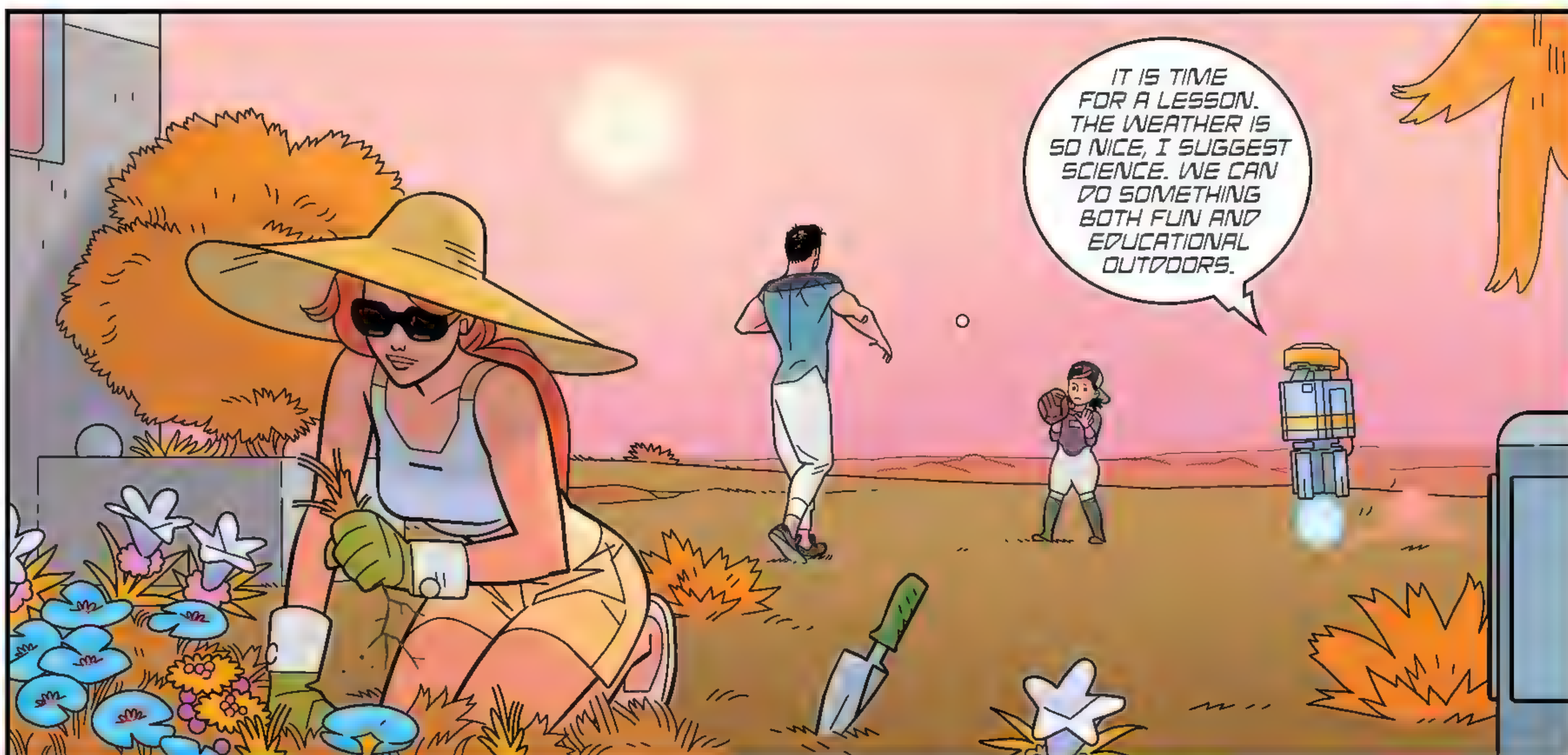


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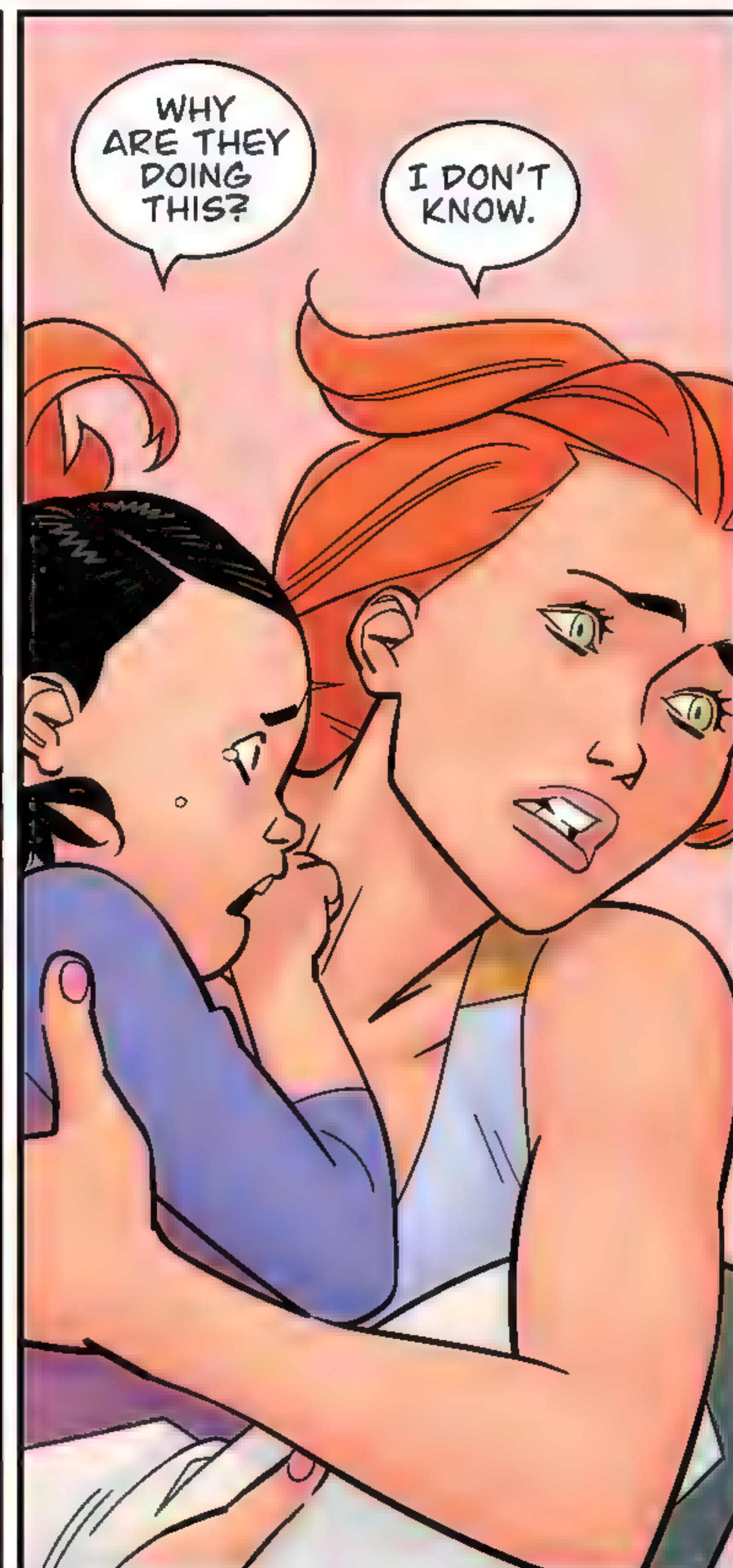


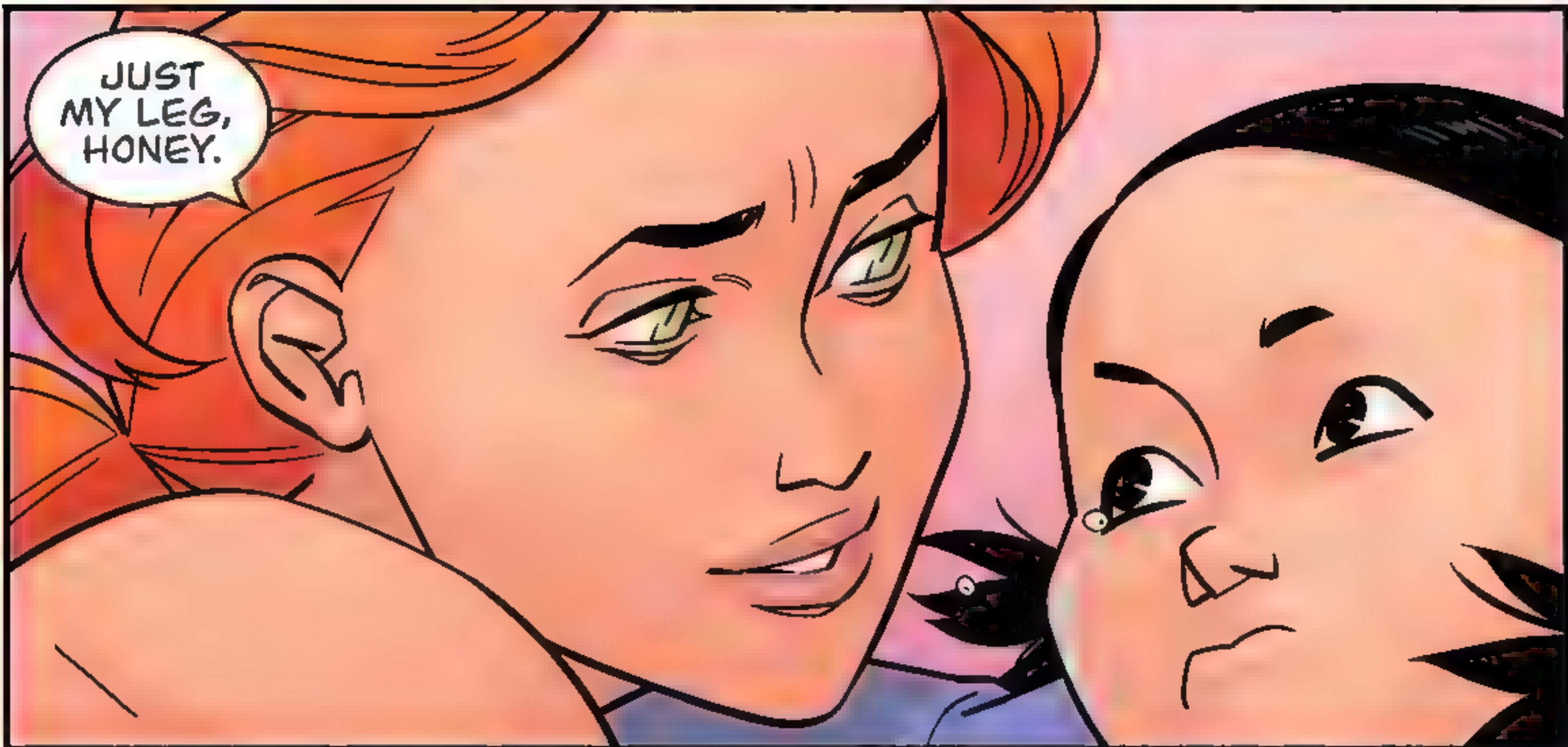
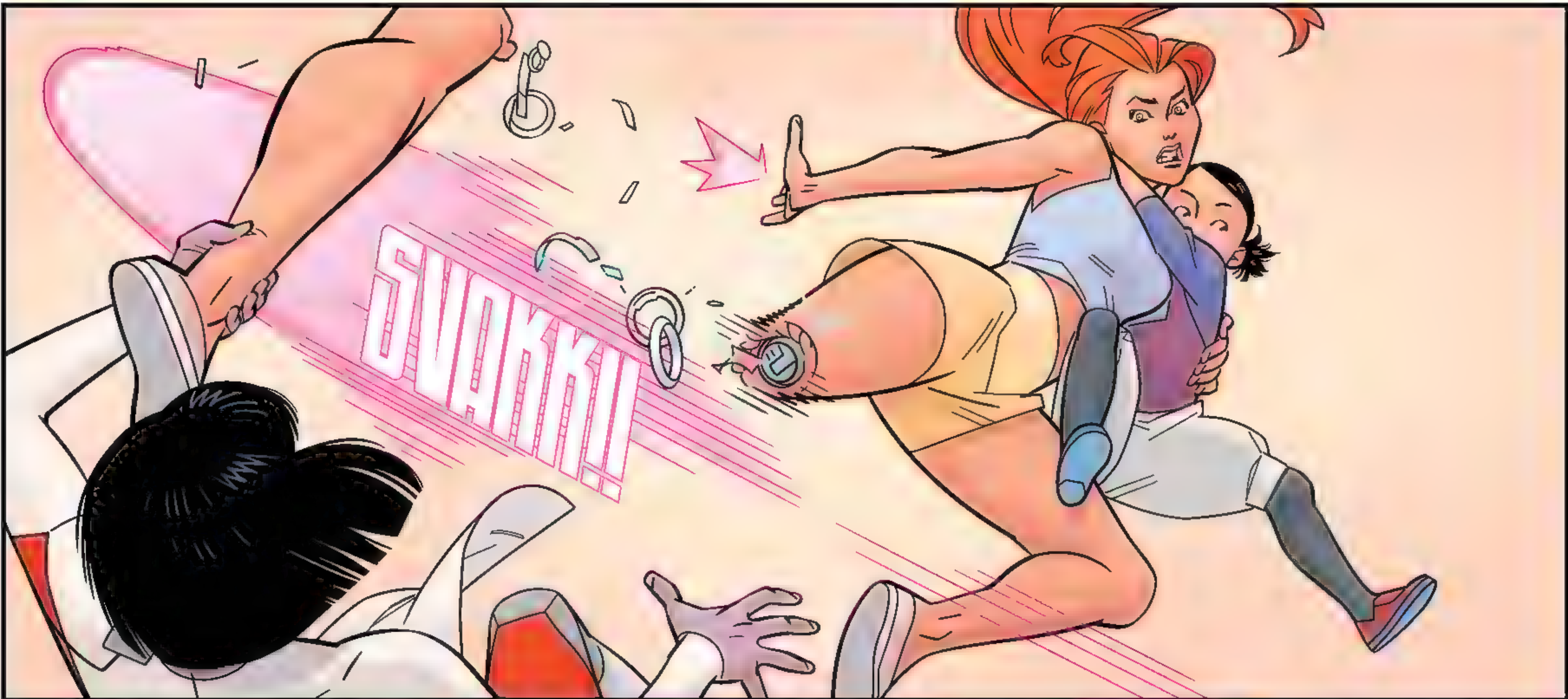
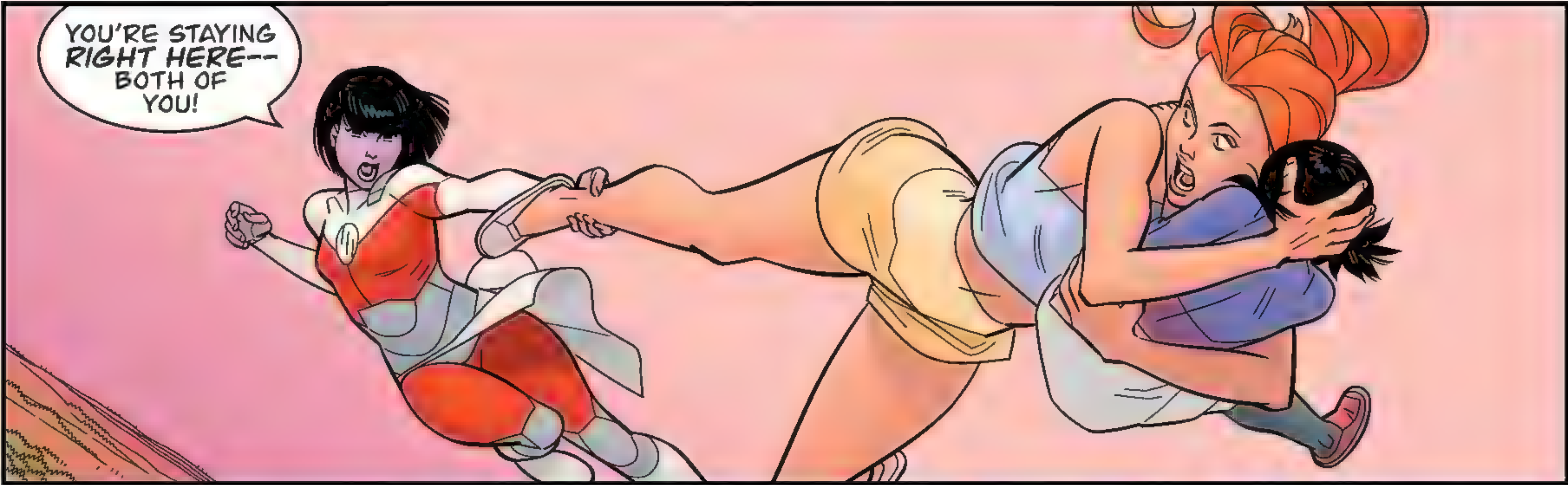


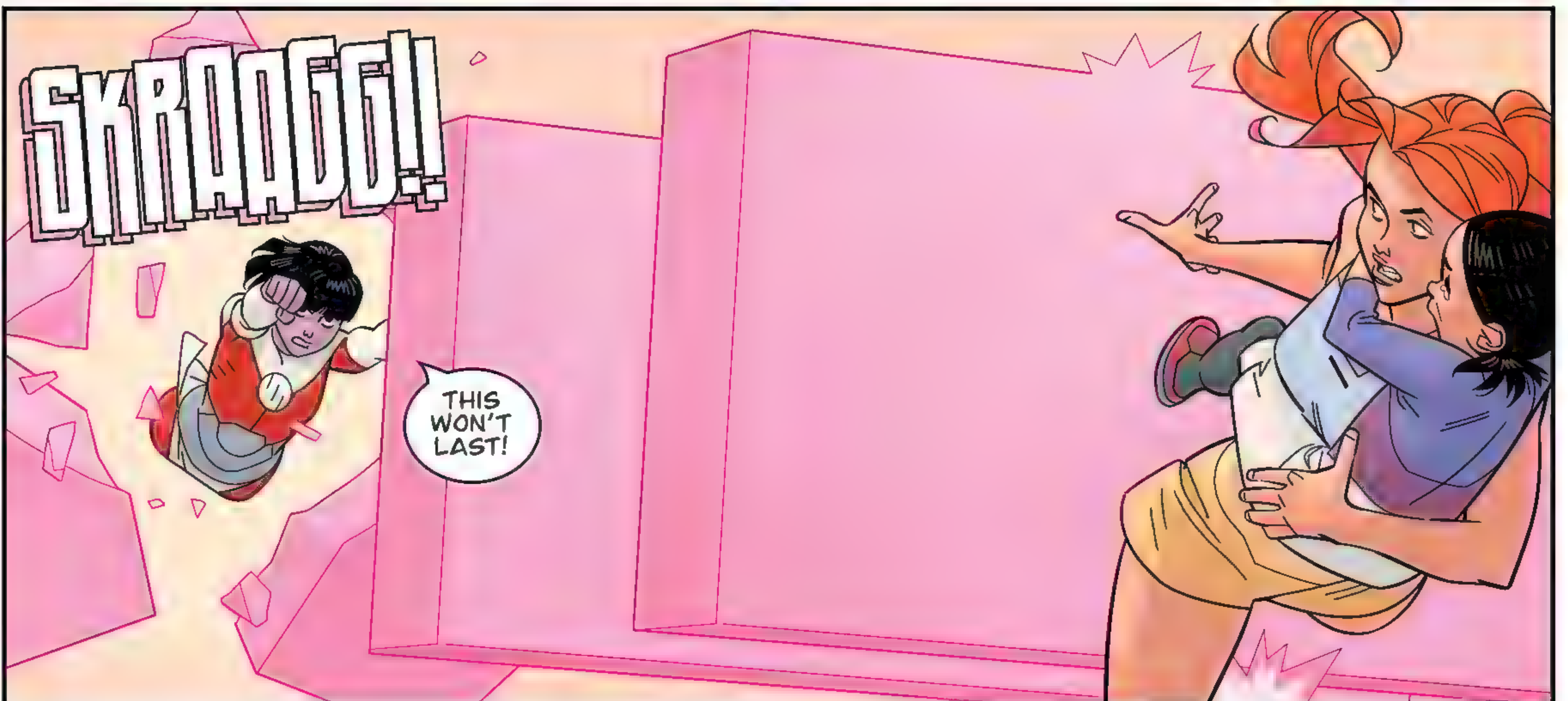
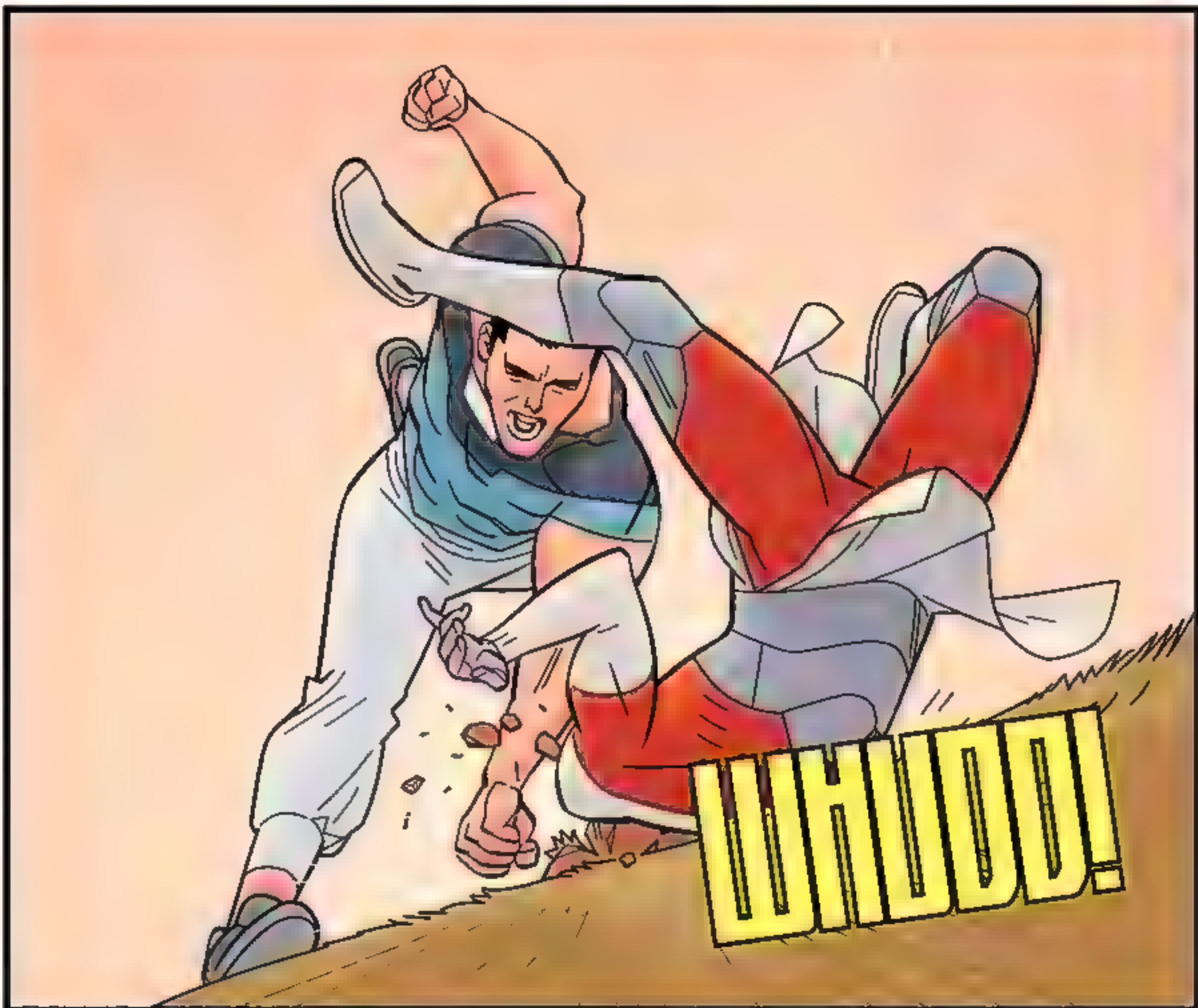
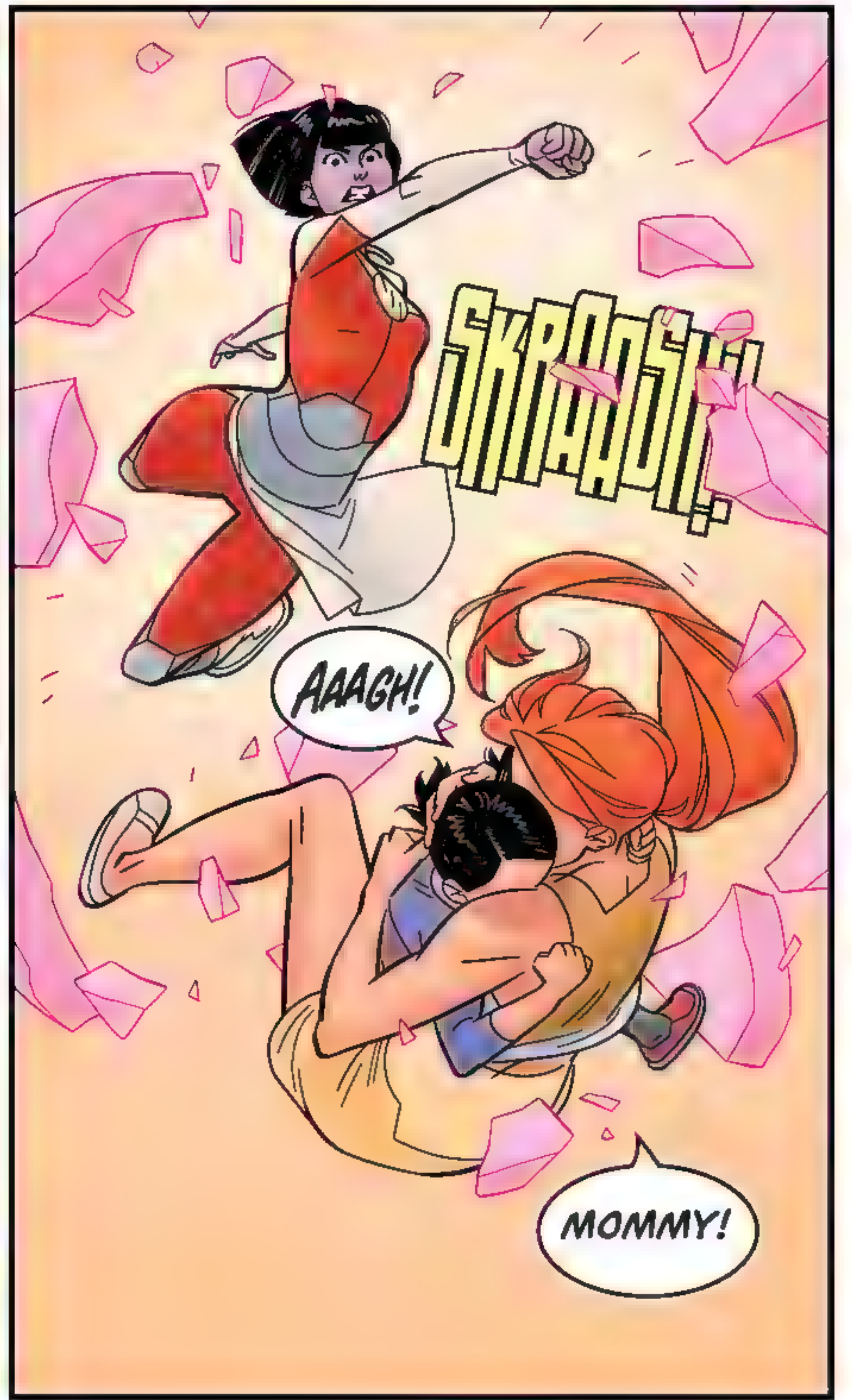


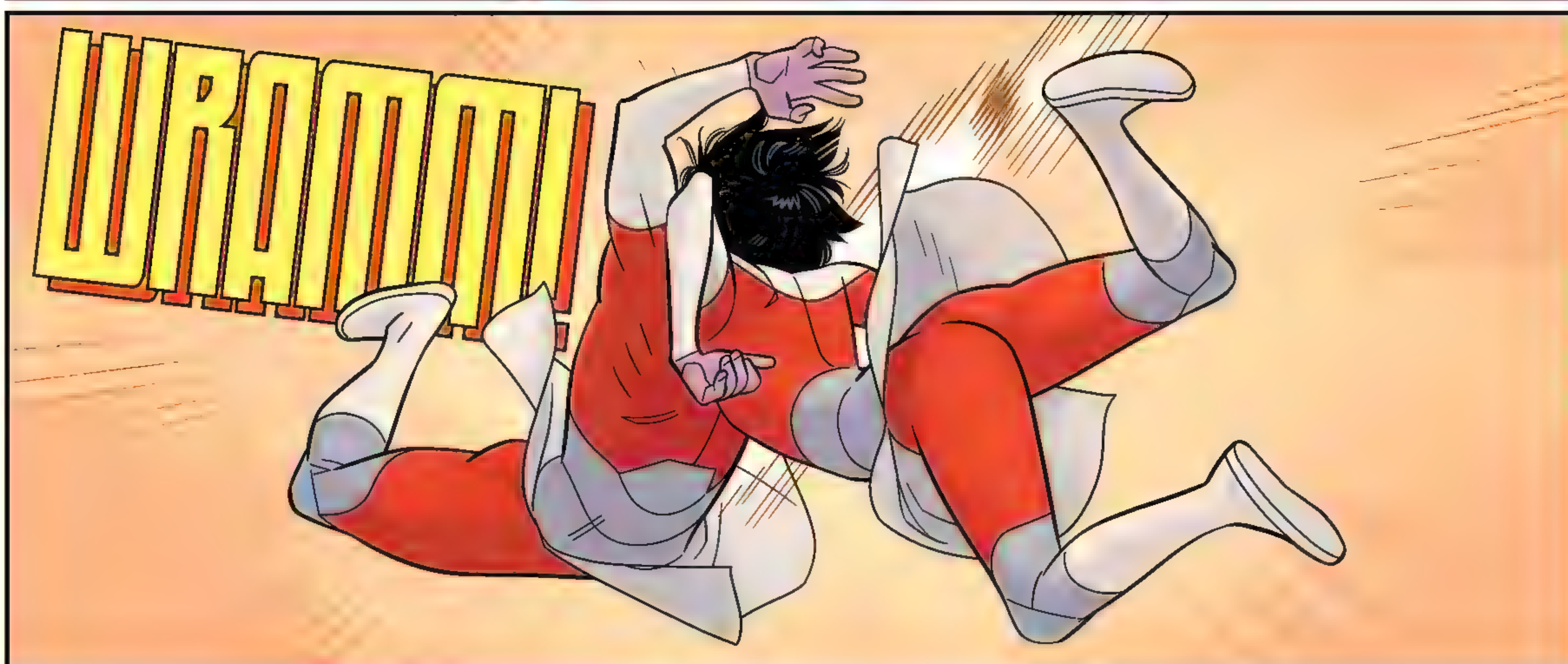
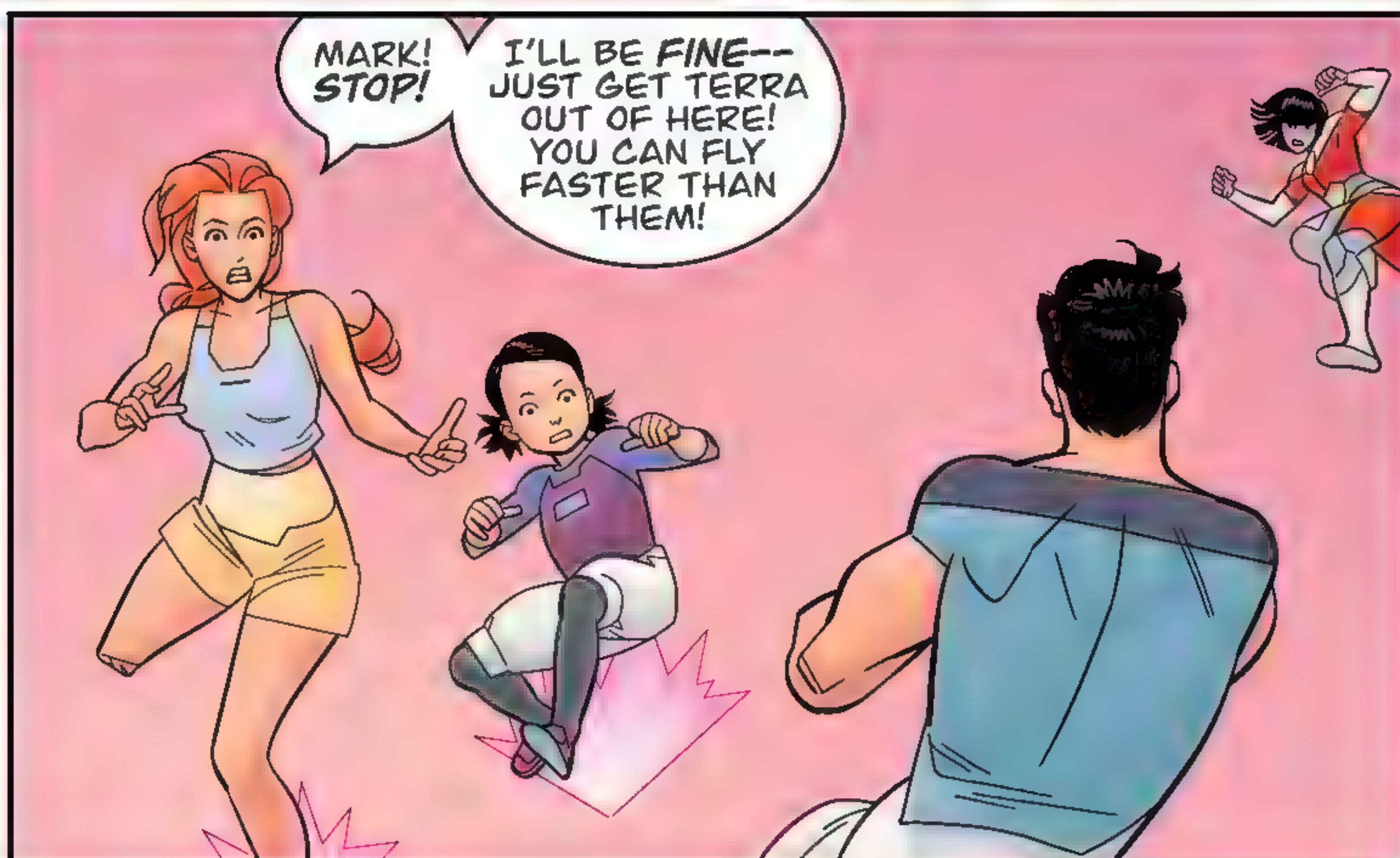
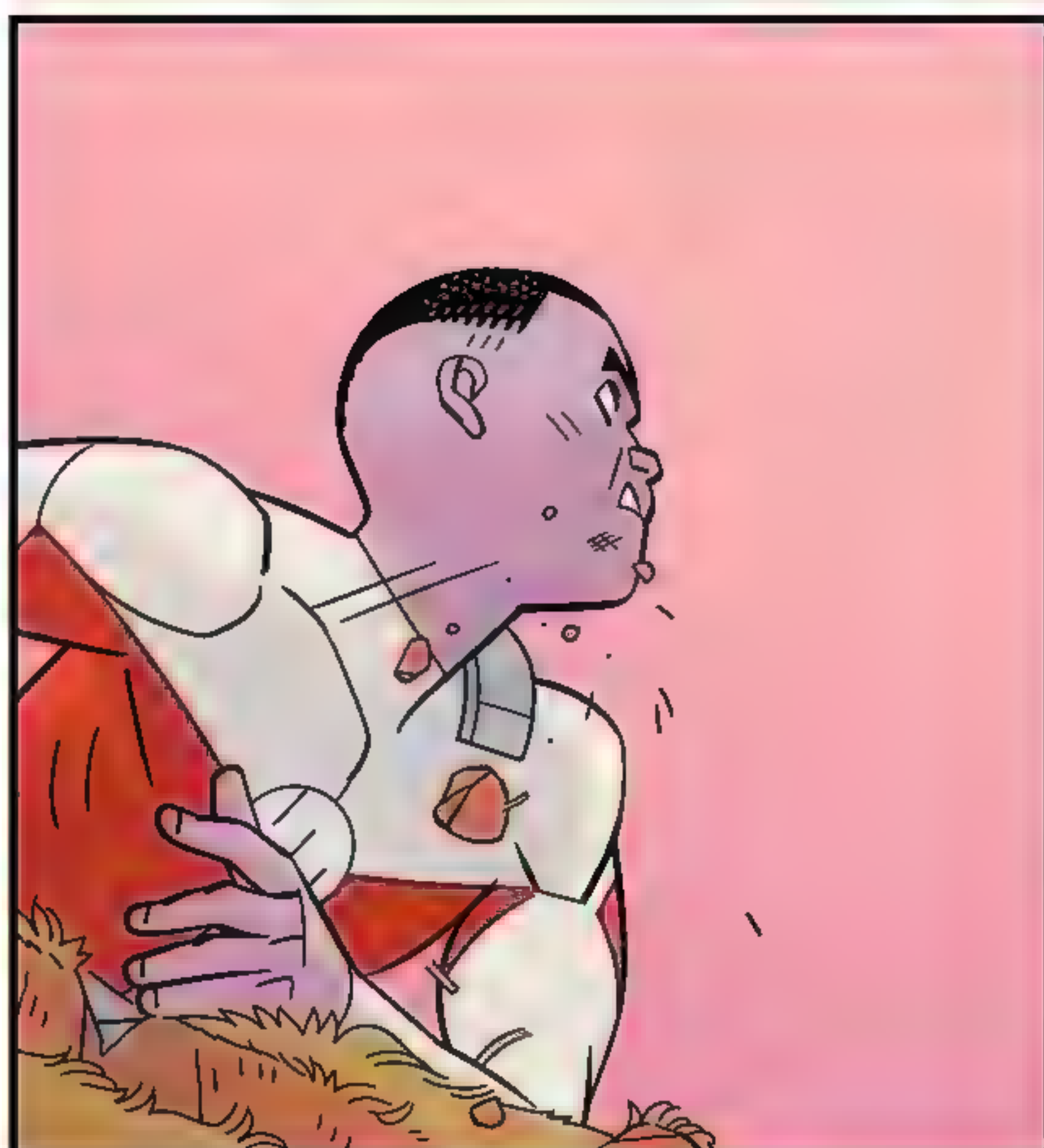


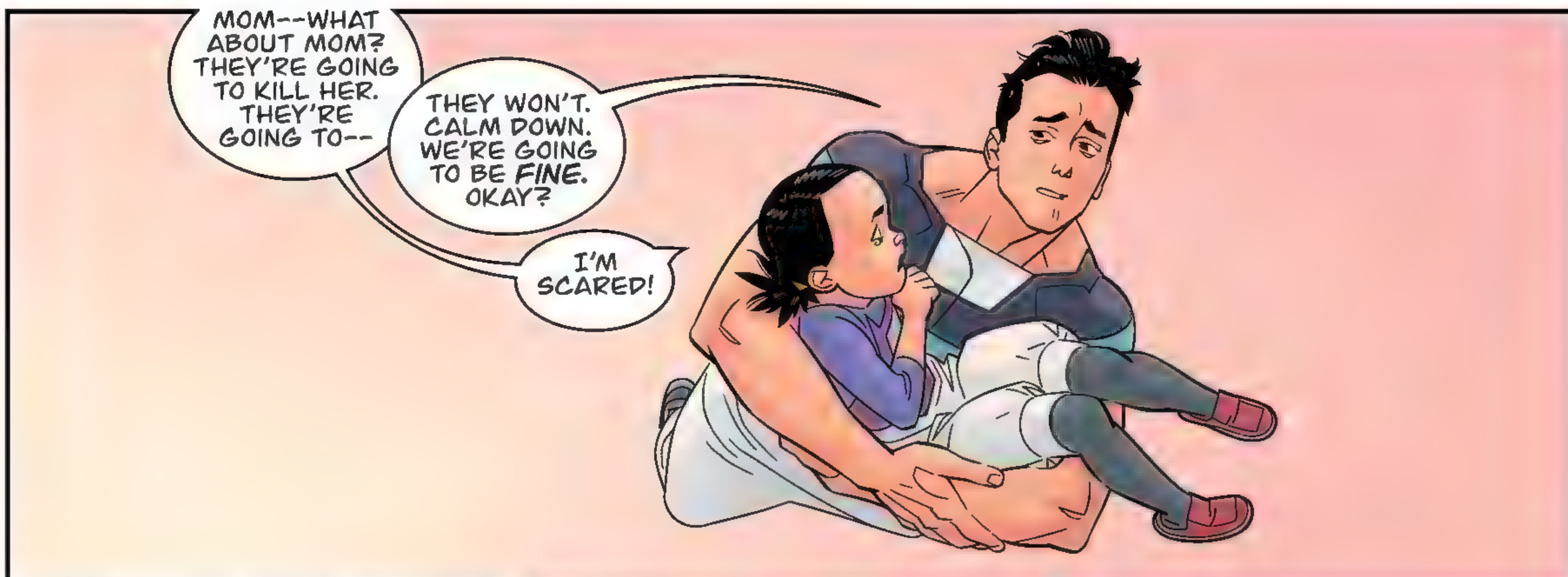




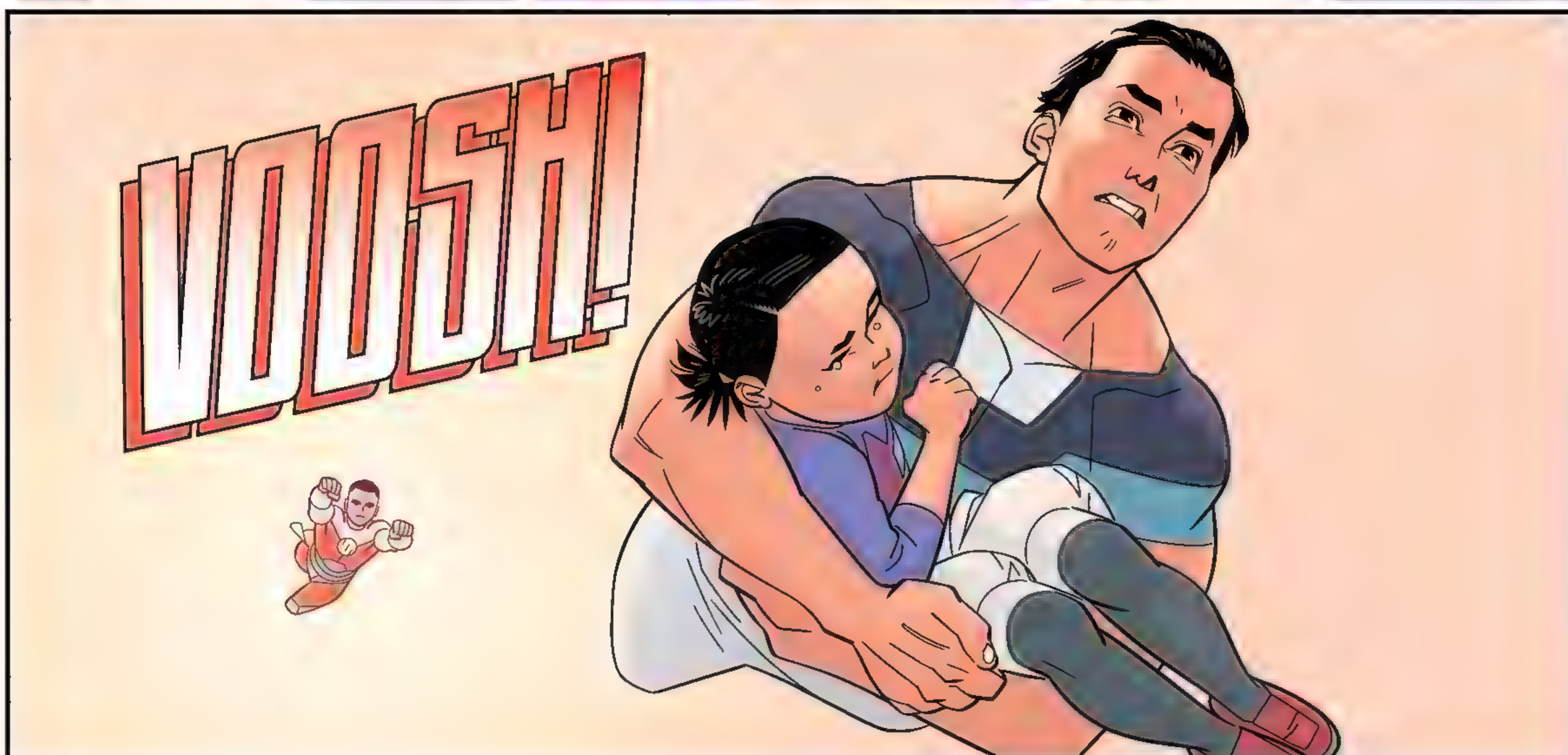
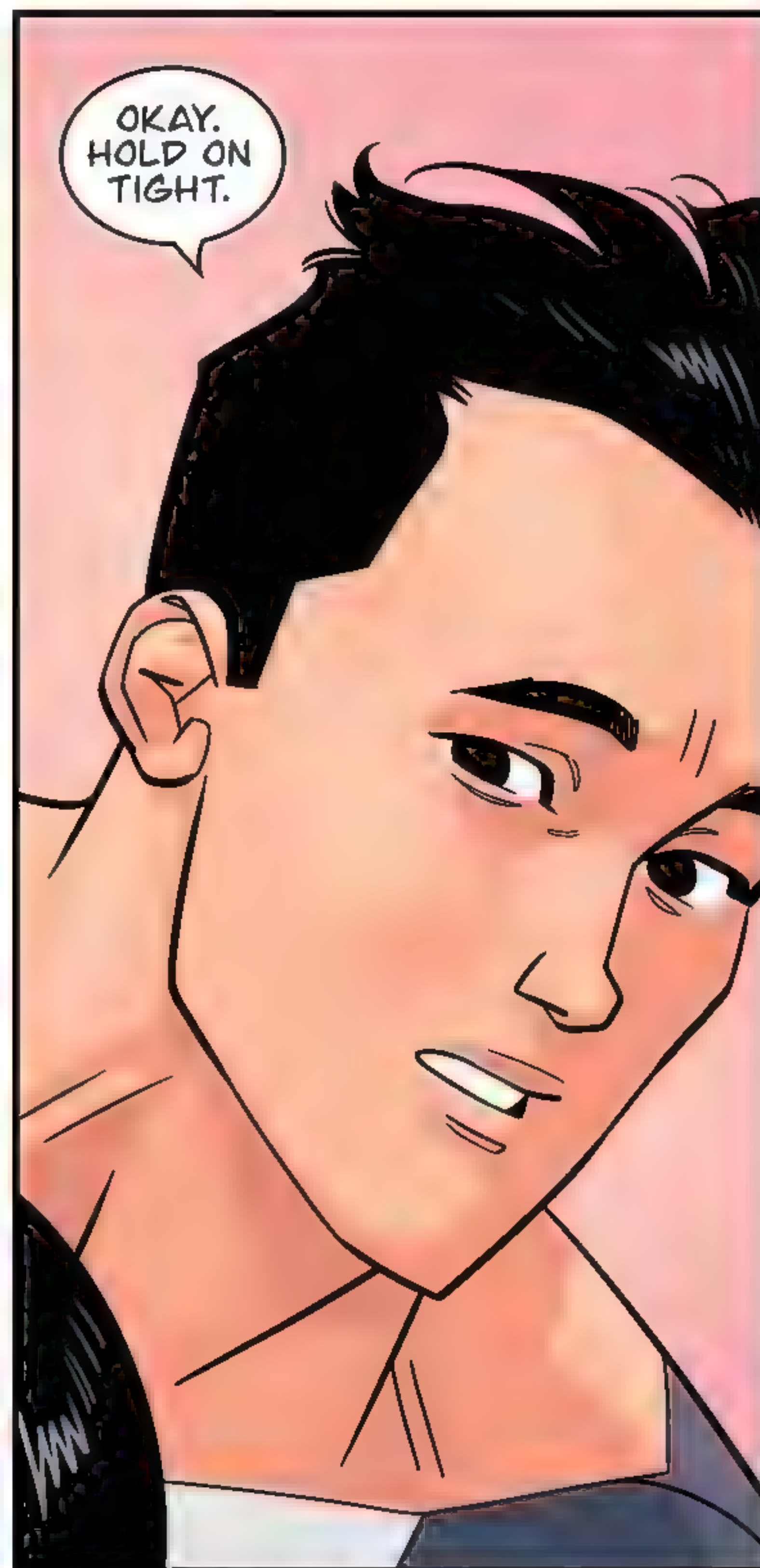


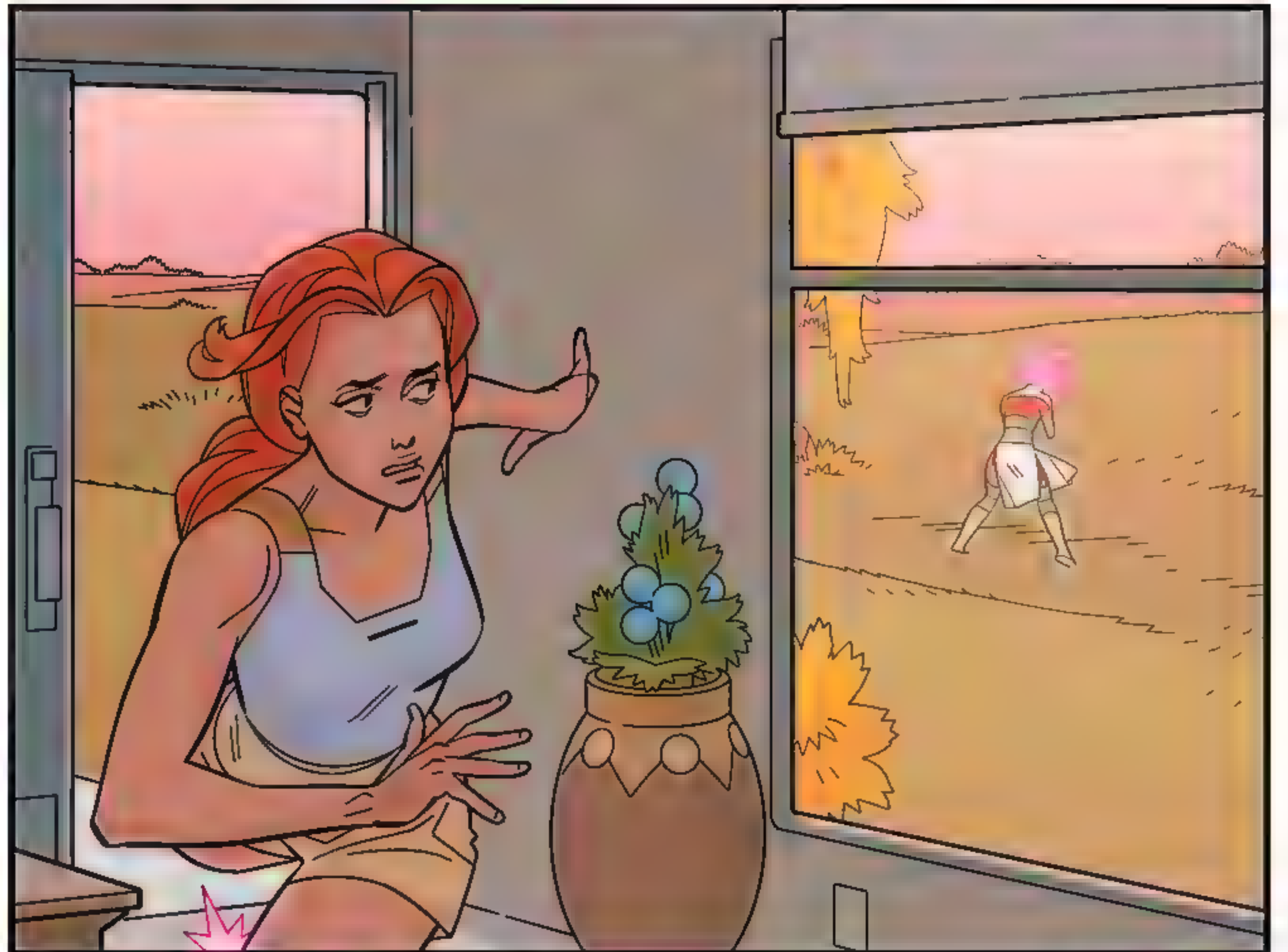
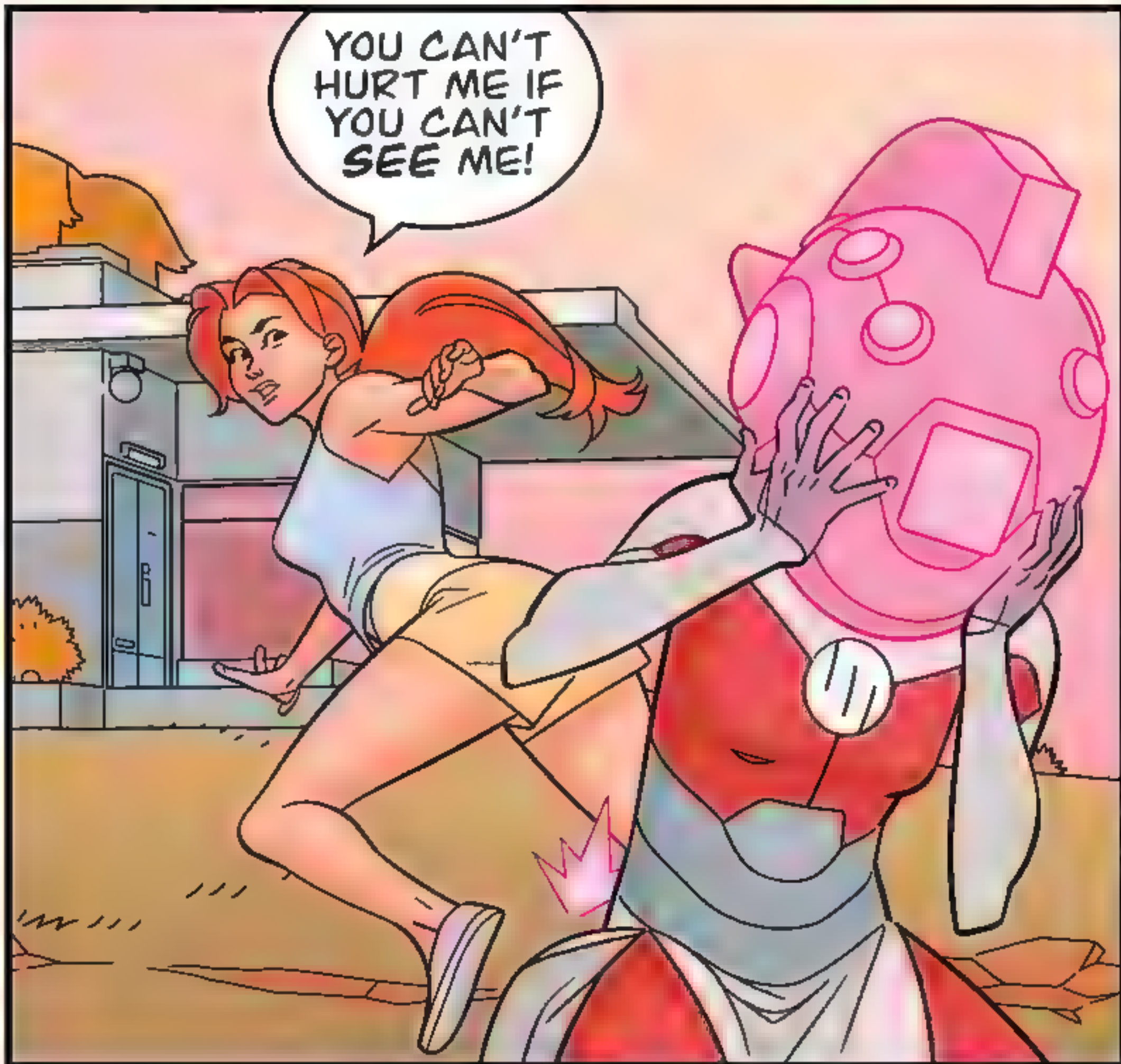
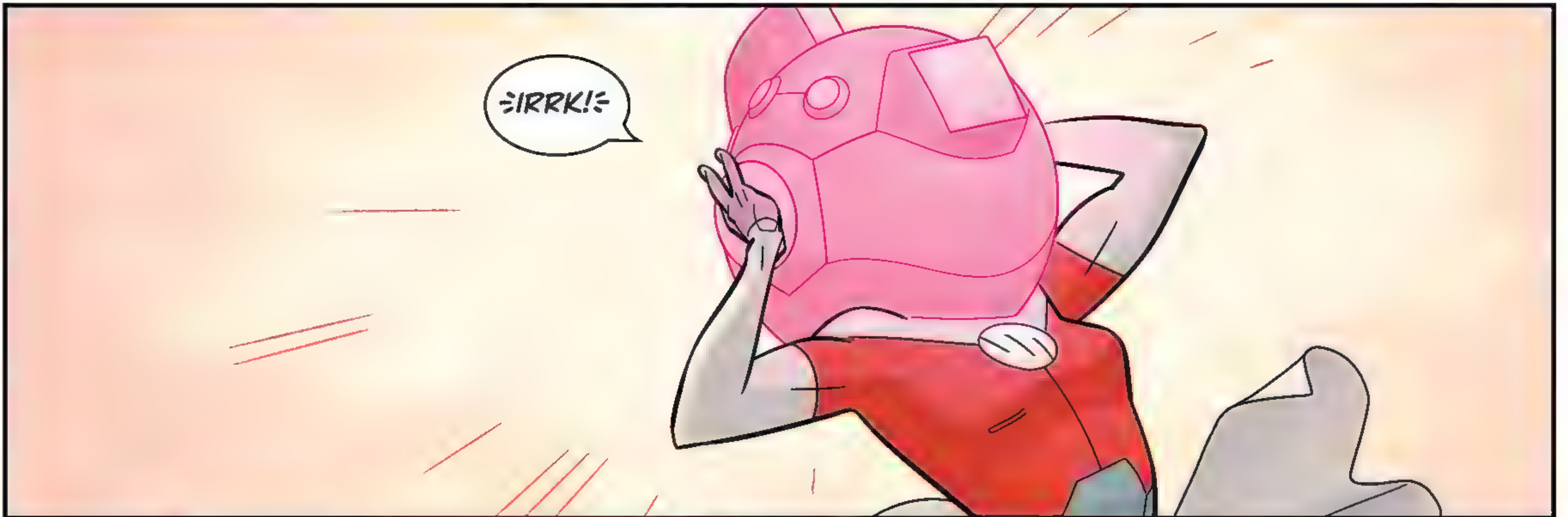


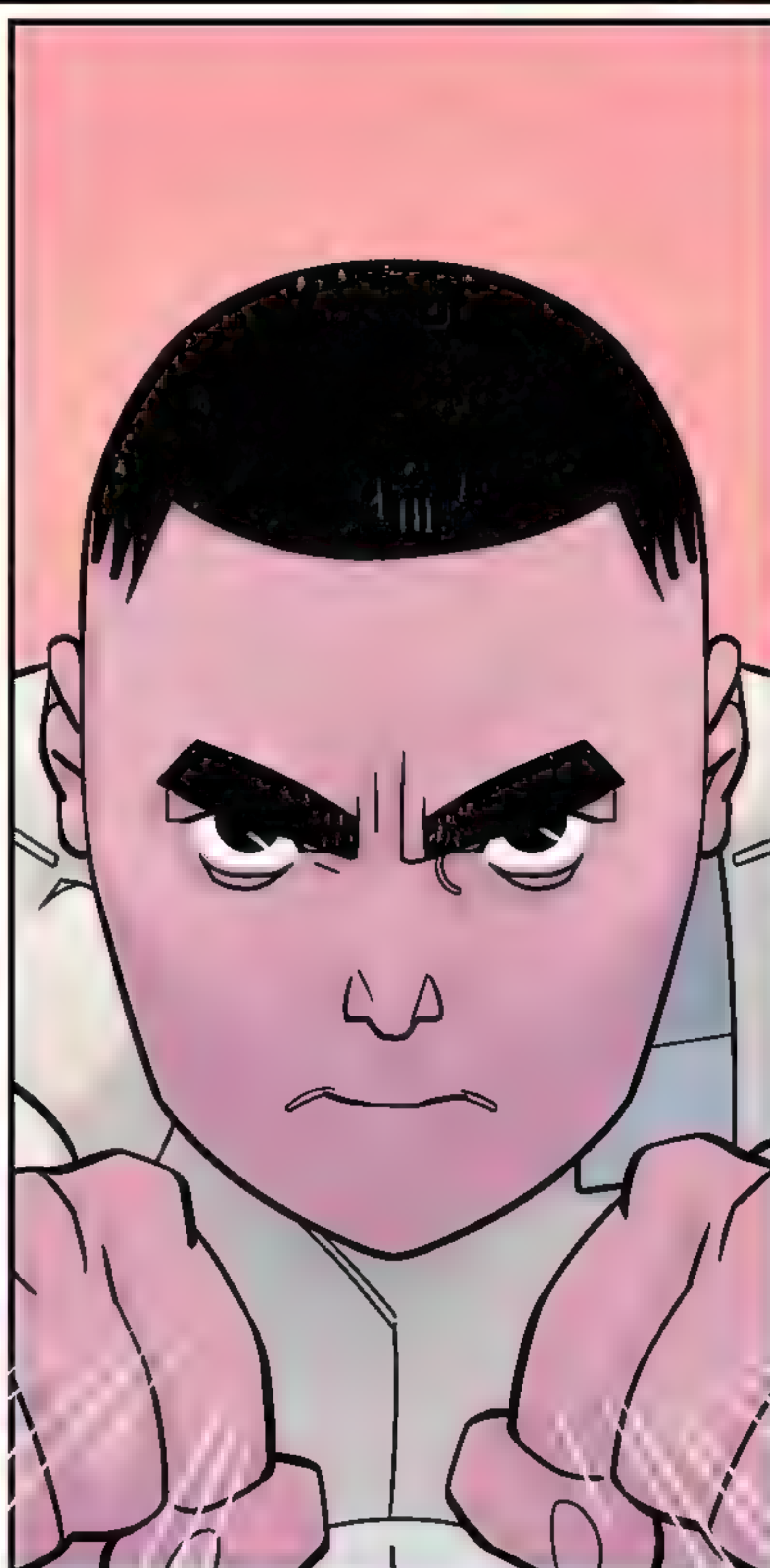
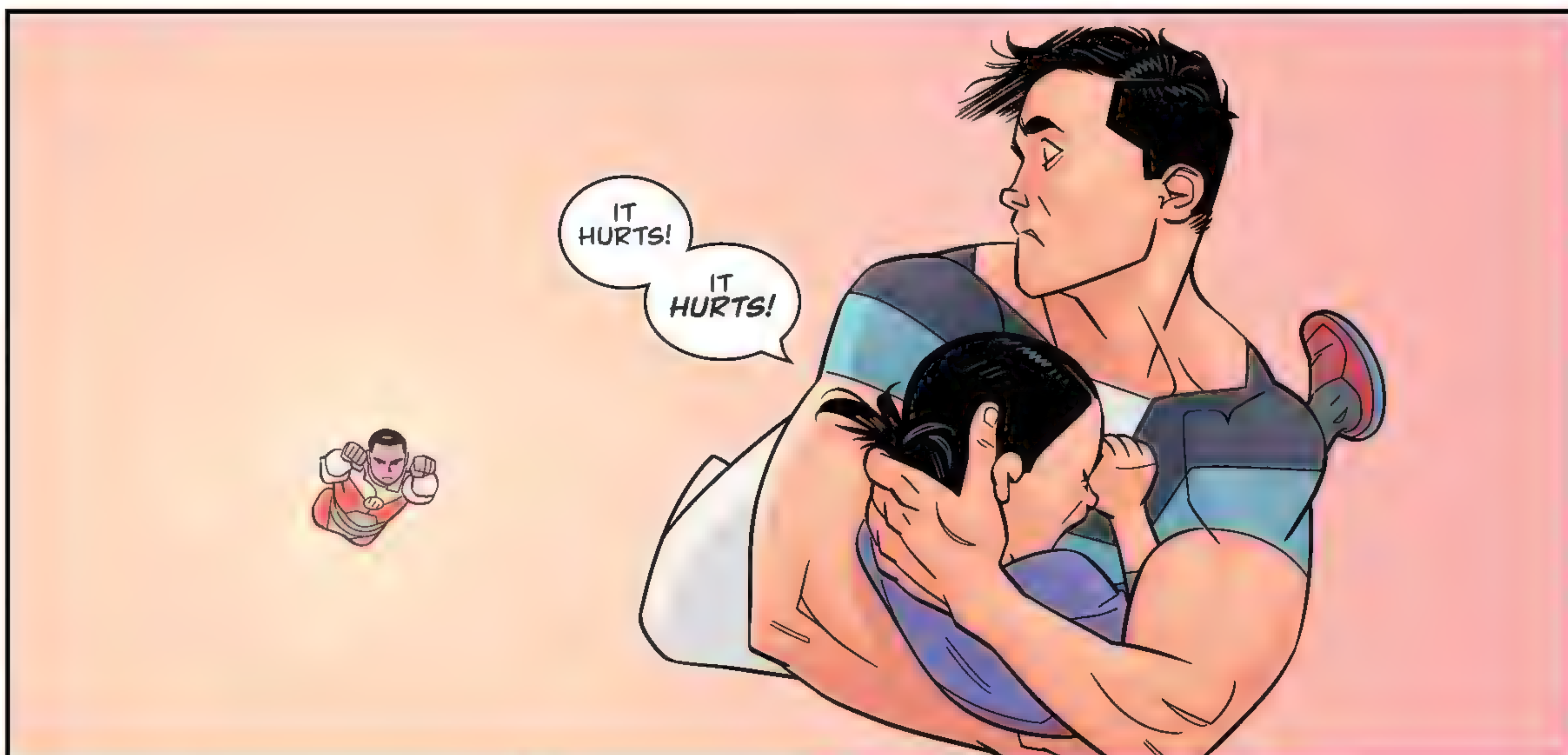




I KNOW. I KNOW YOU'RE SCARED. I'M HERE AND I'M GOING TO PROTECT YOU. I NEED TO FLY FAST AND REALLY, REALLY HIGH NOW... AND I NEED YOU TO BE BRAVE.

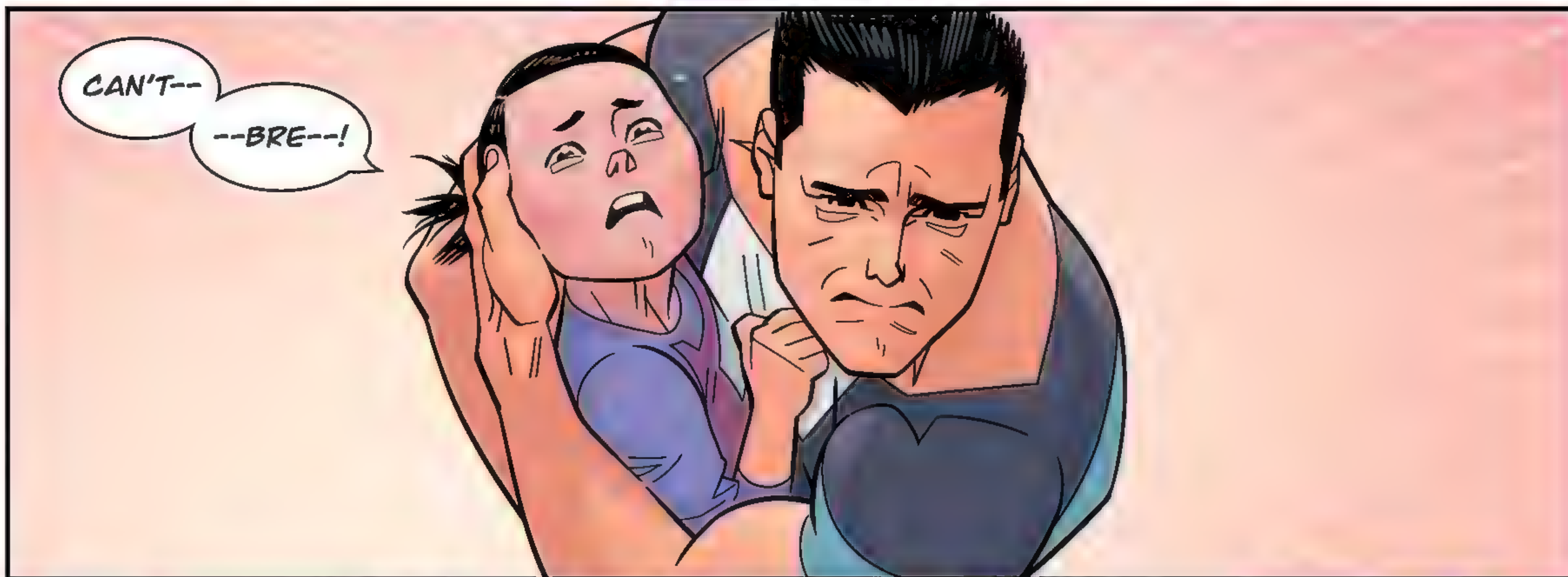


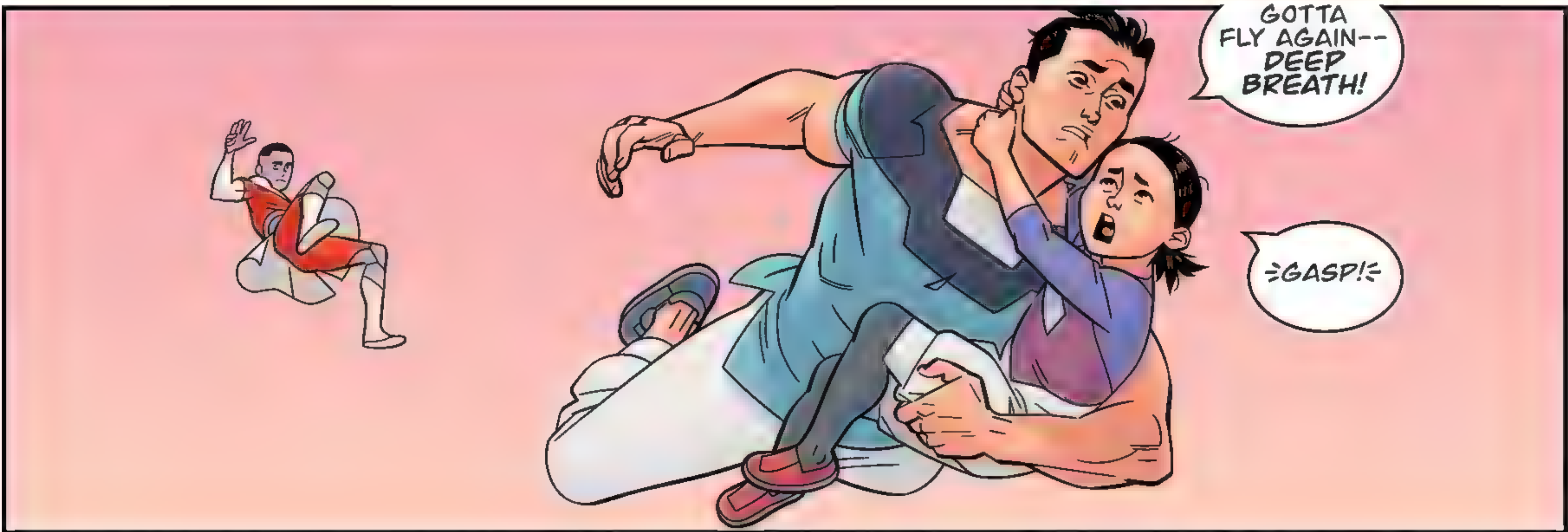
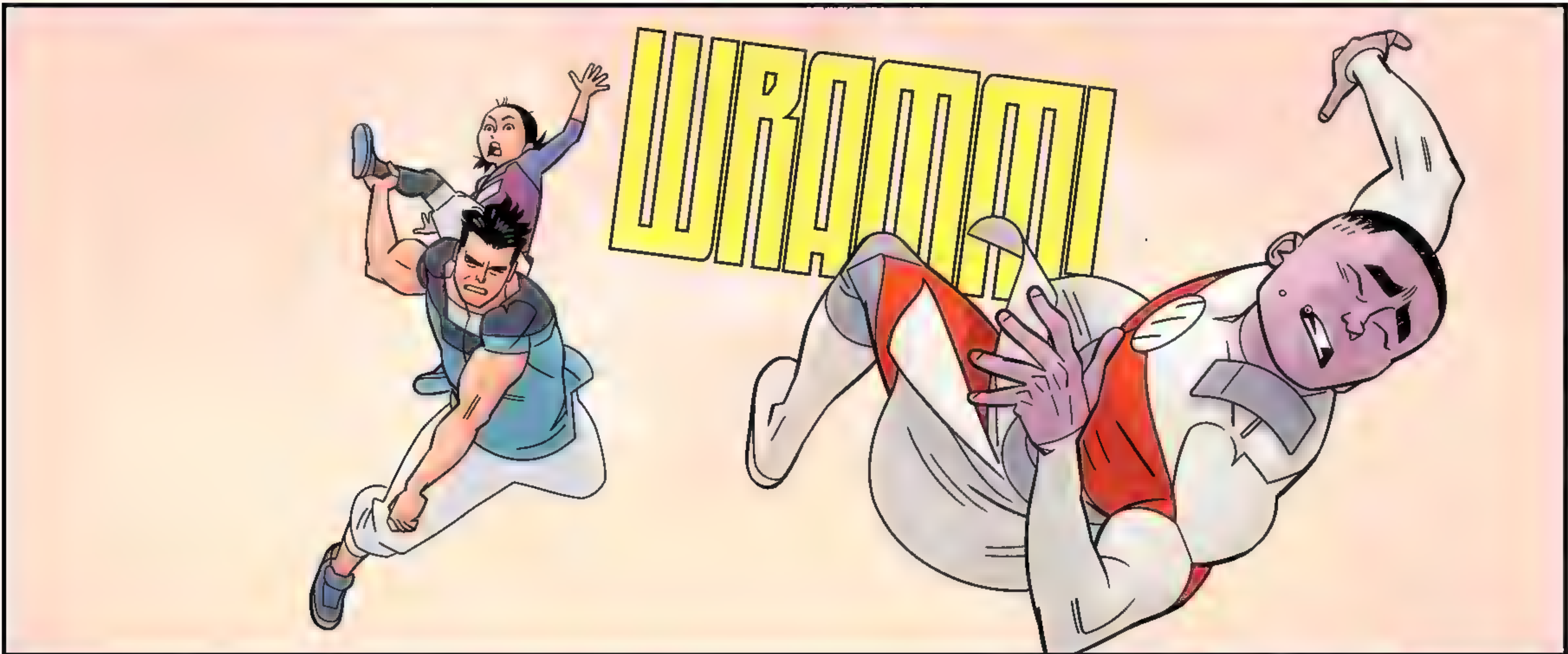
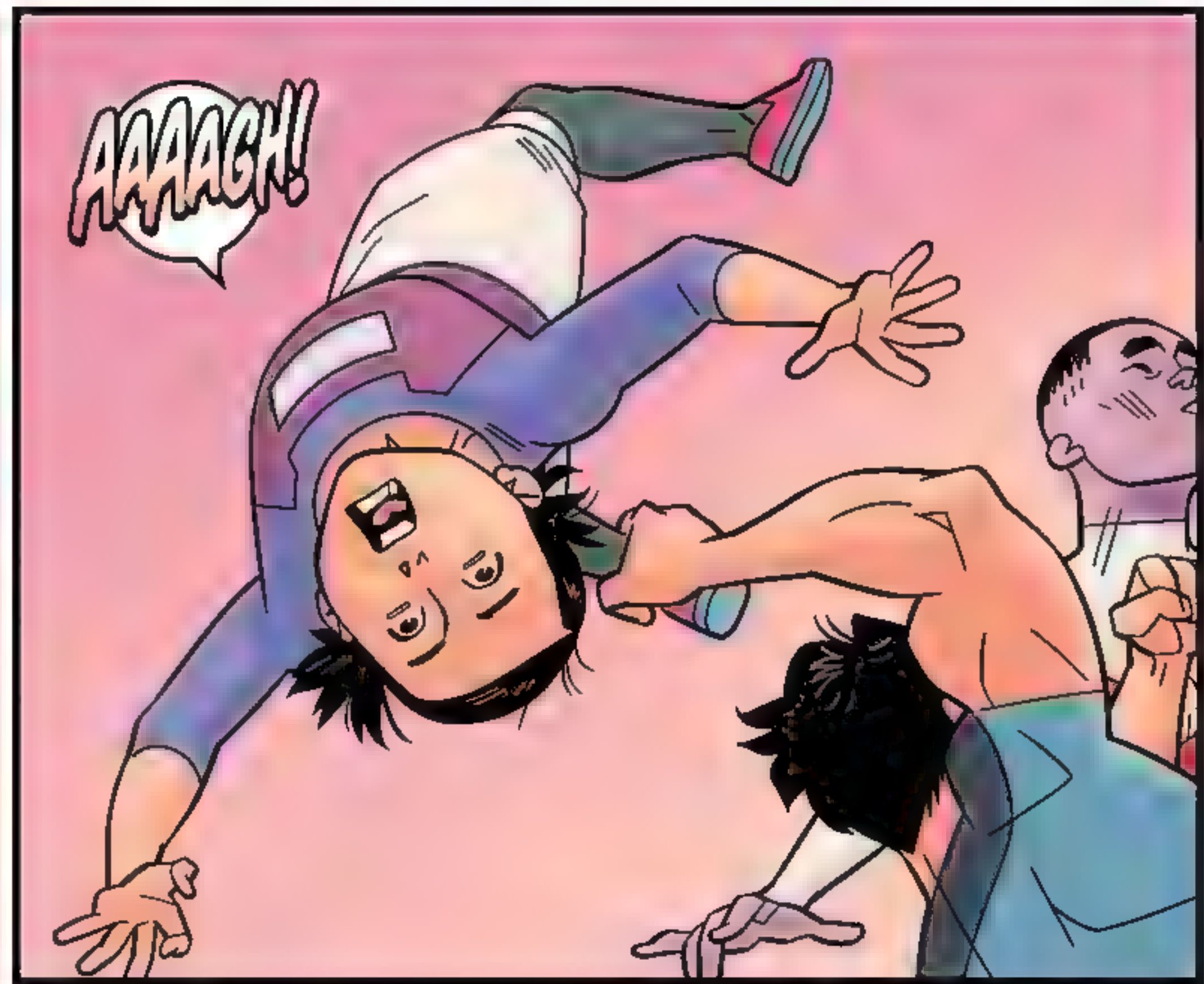


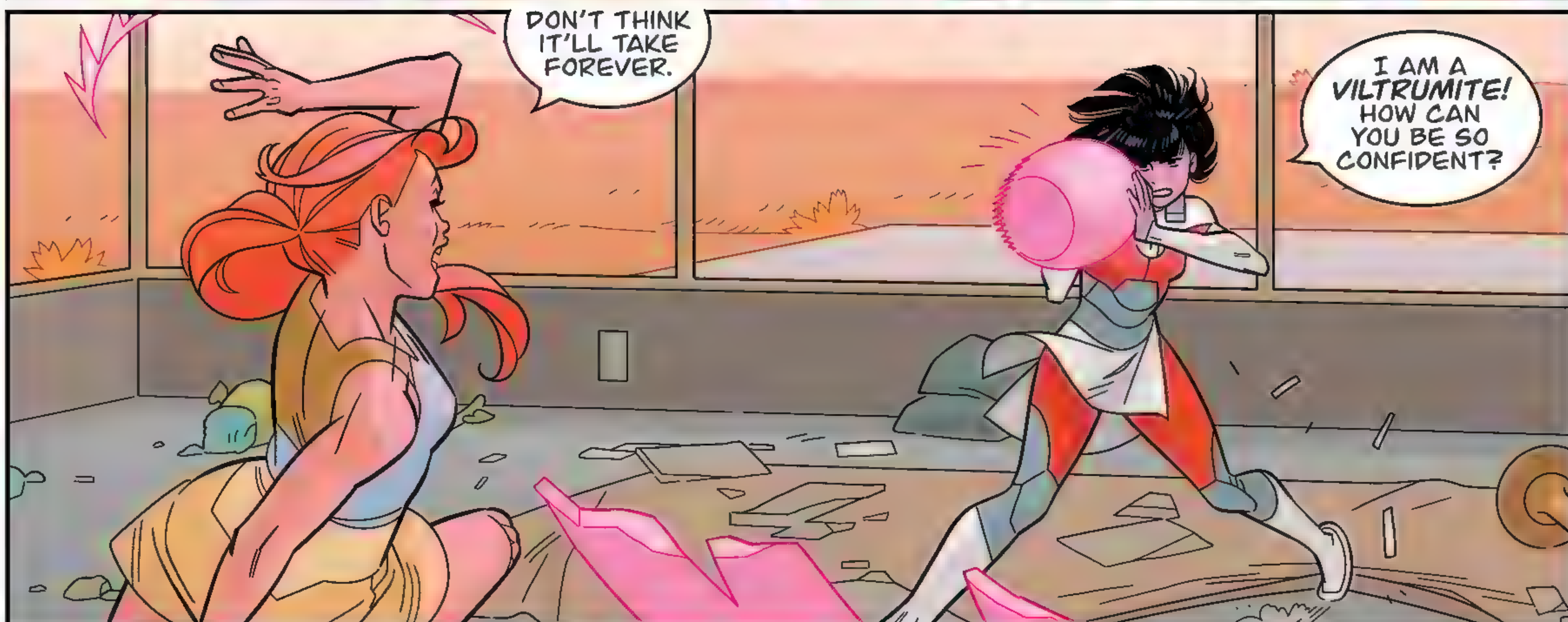
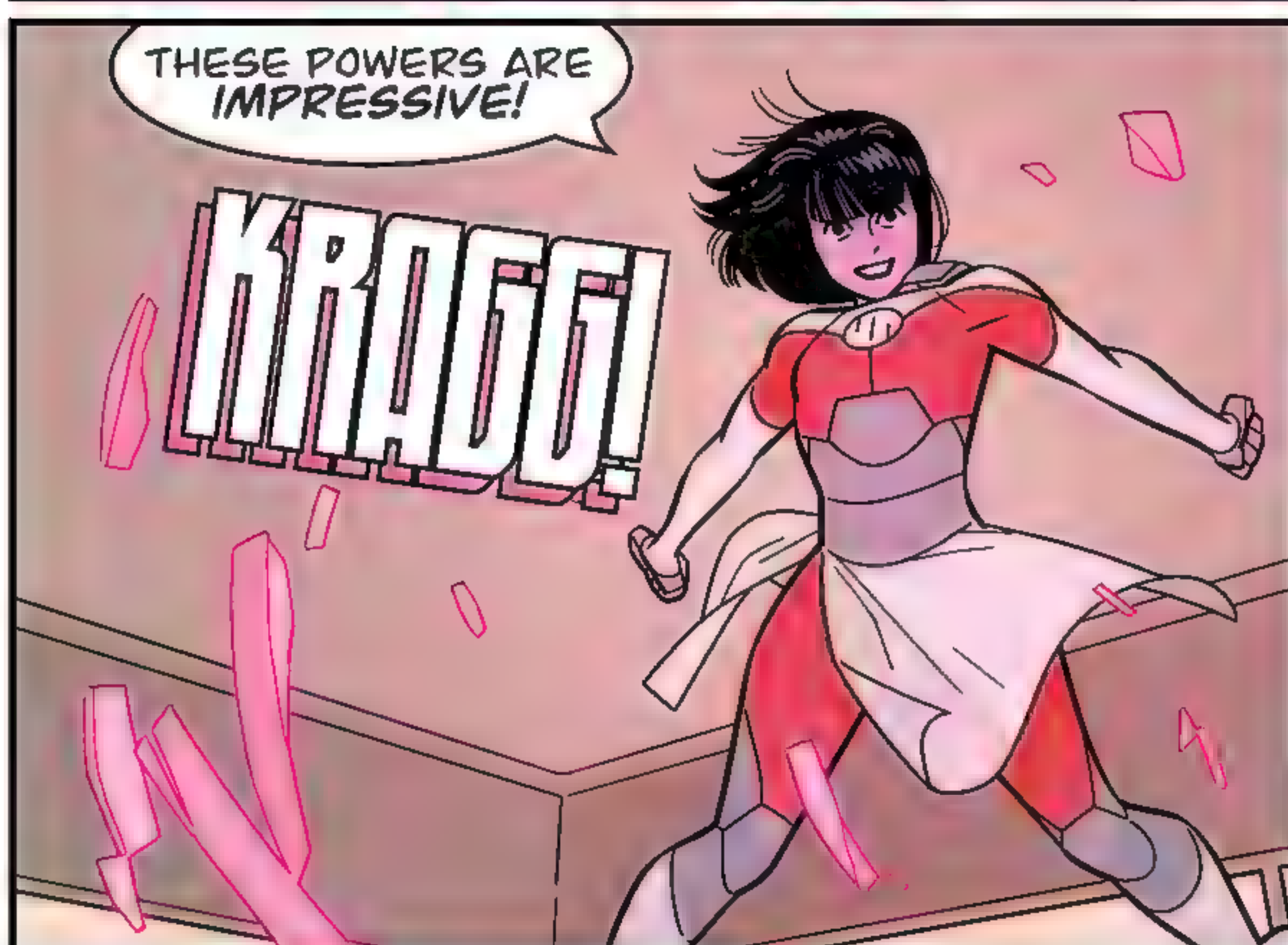
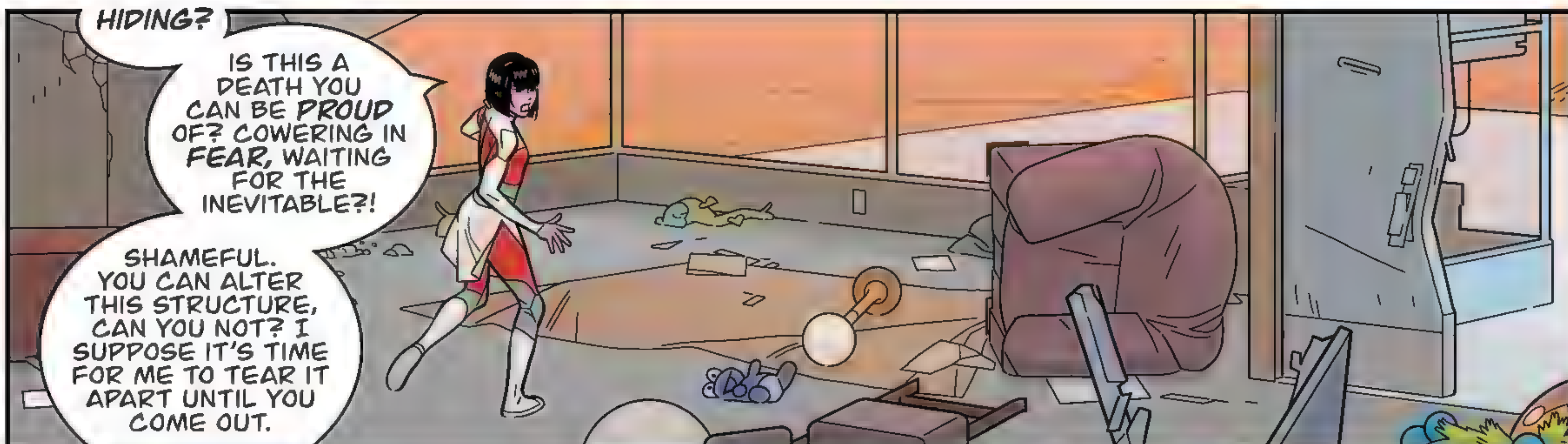


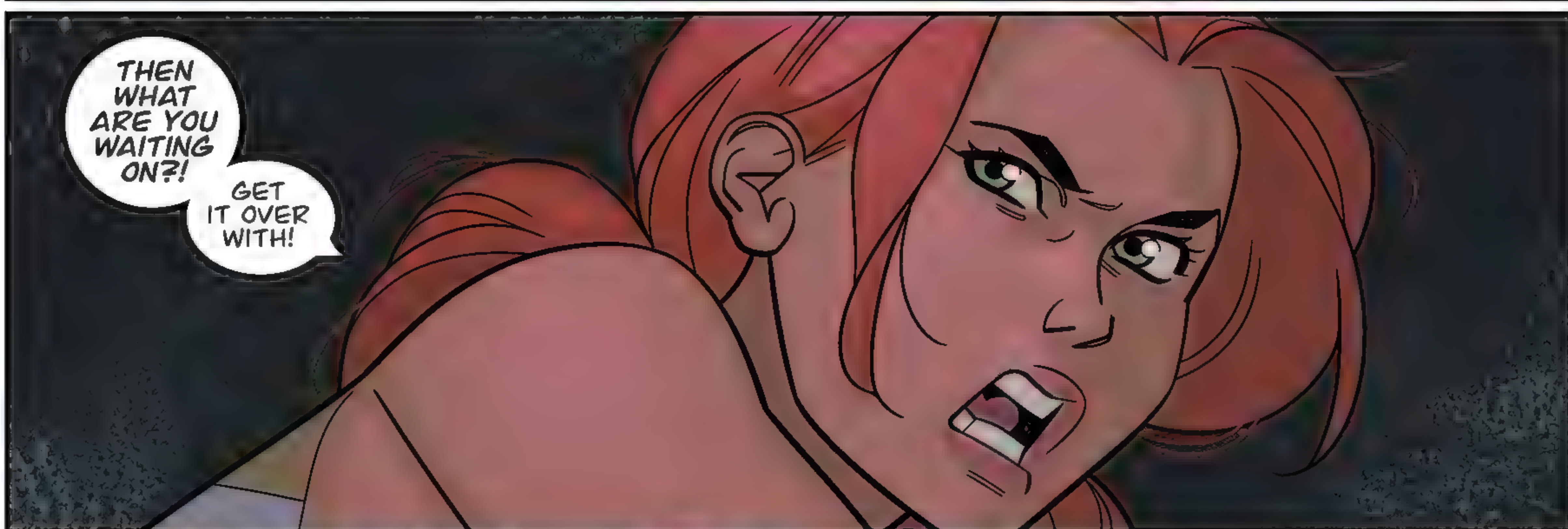
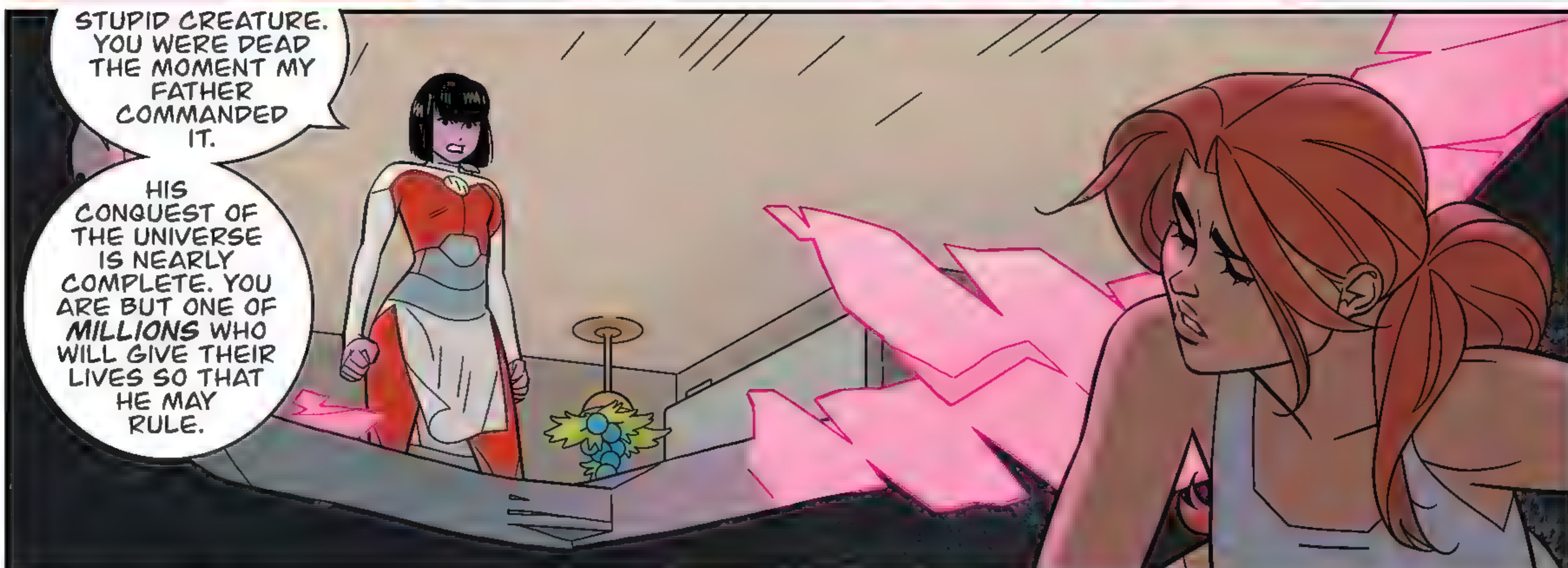
FUWA-BOOOOOM!!!

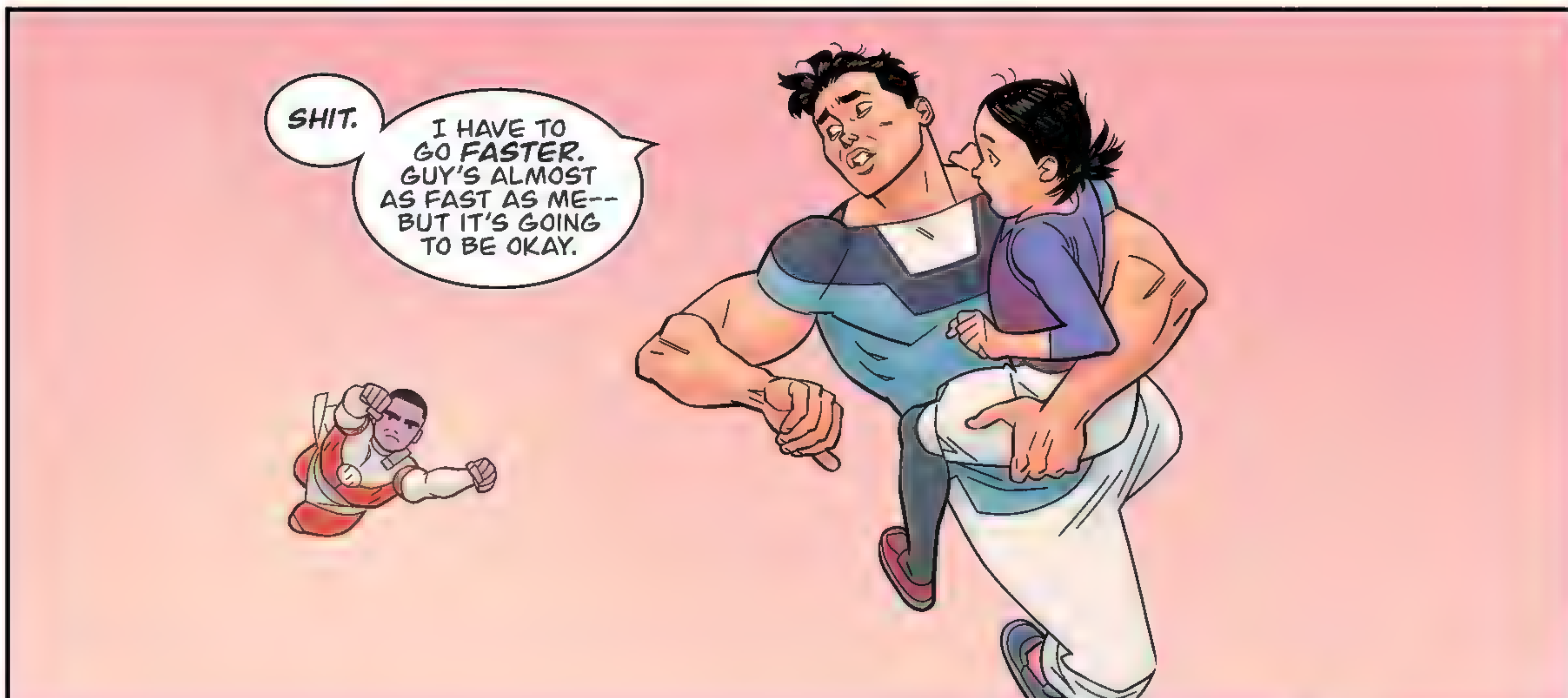
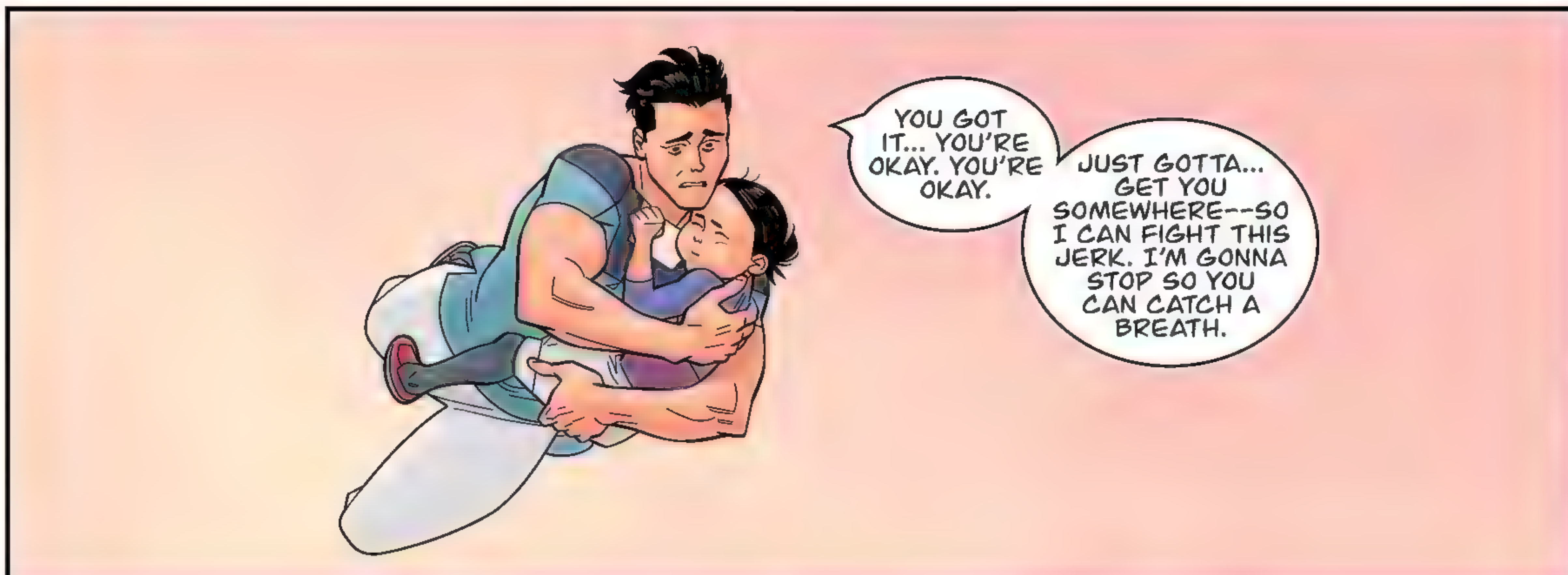


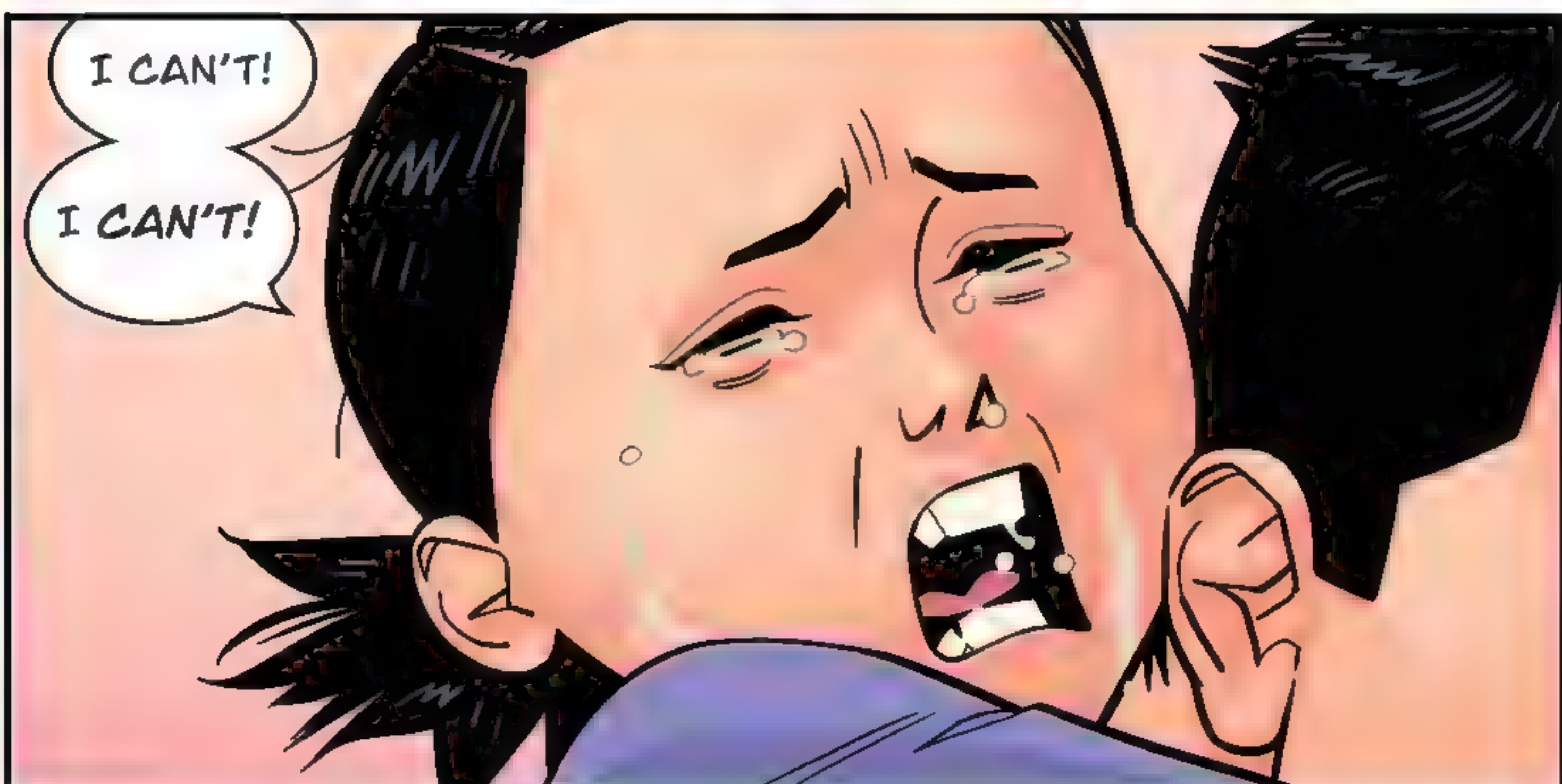


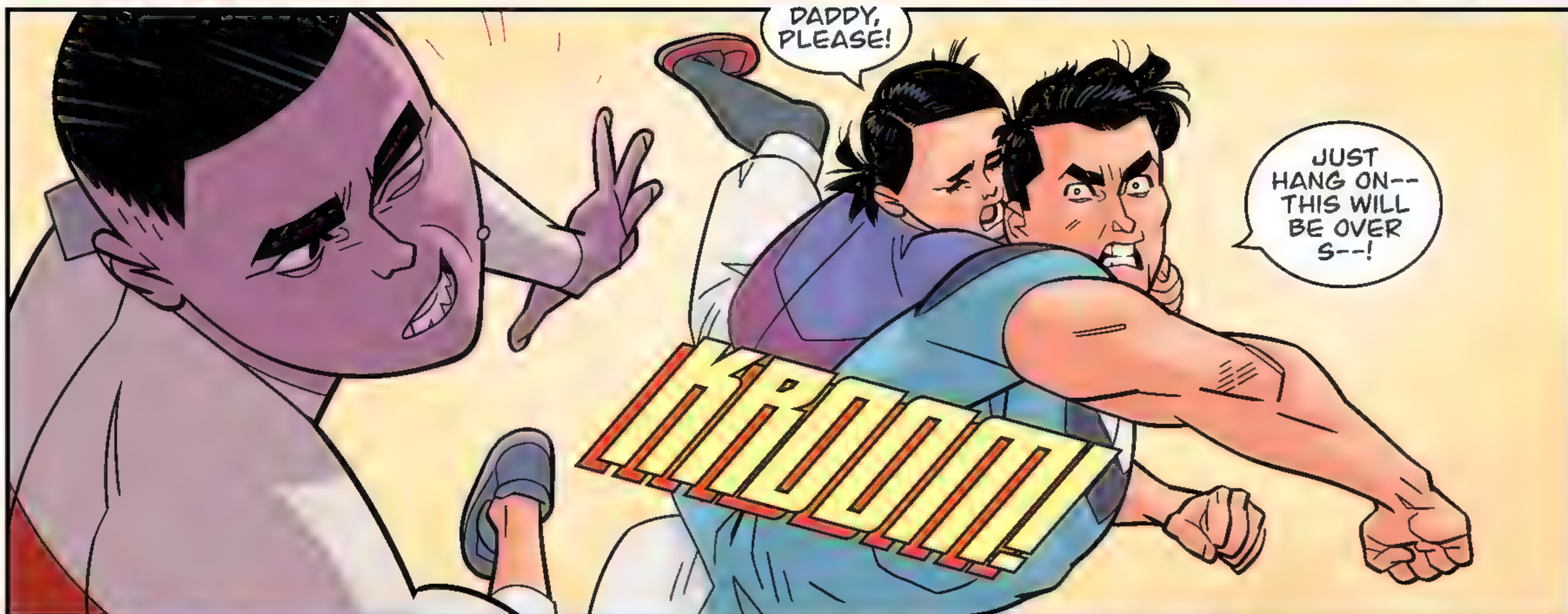
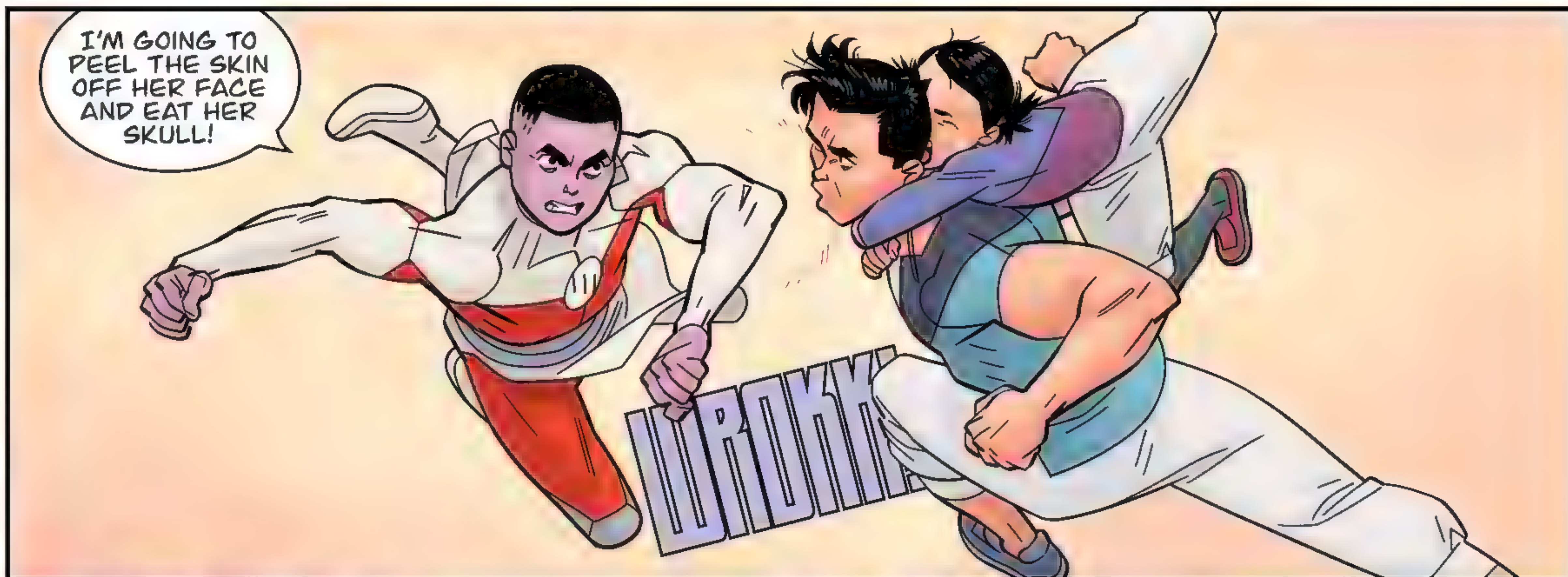










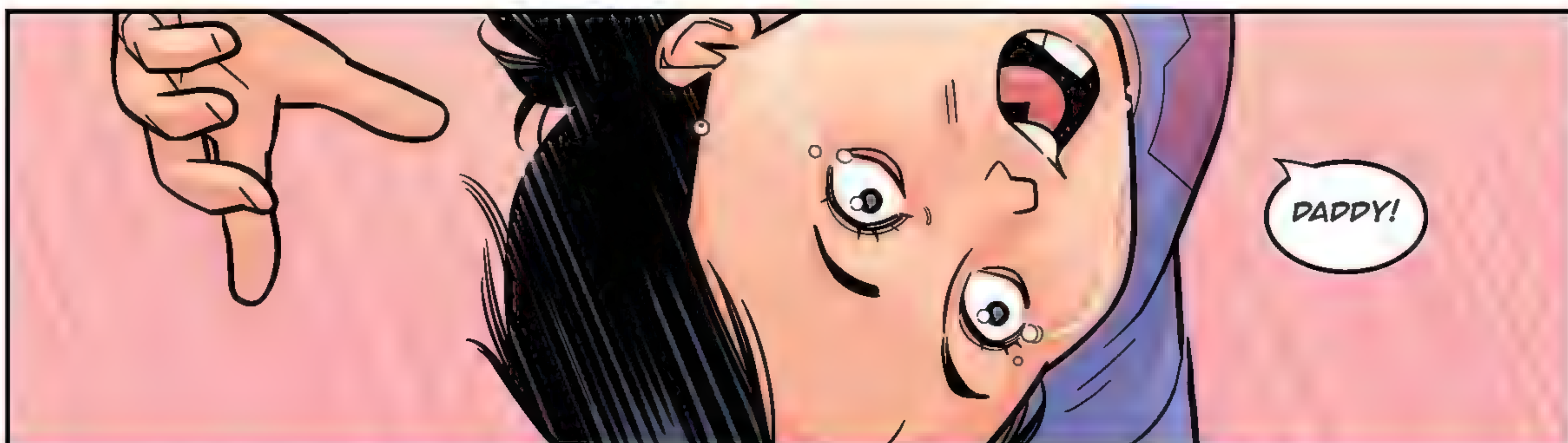






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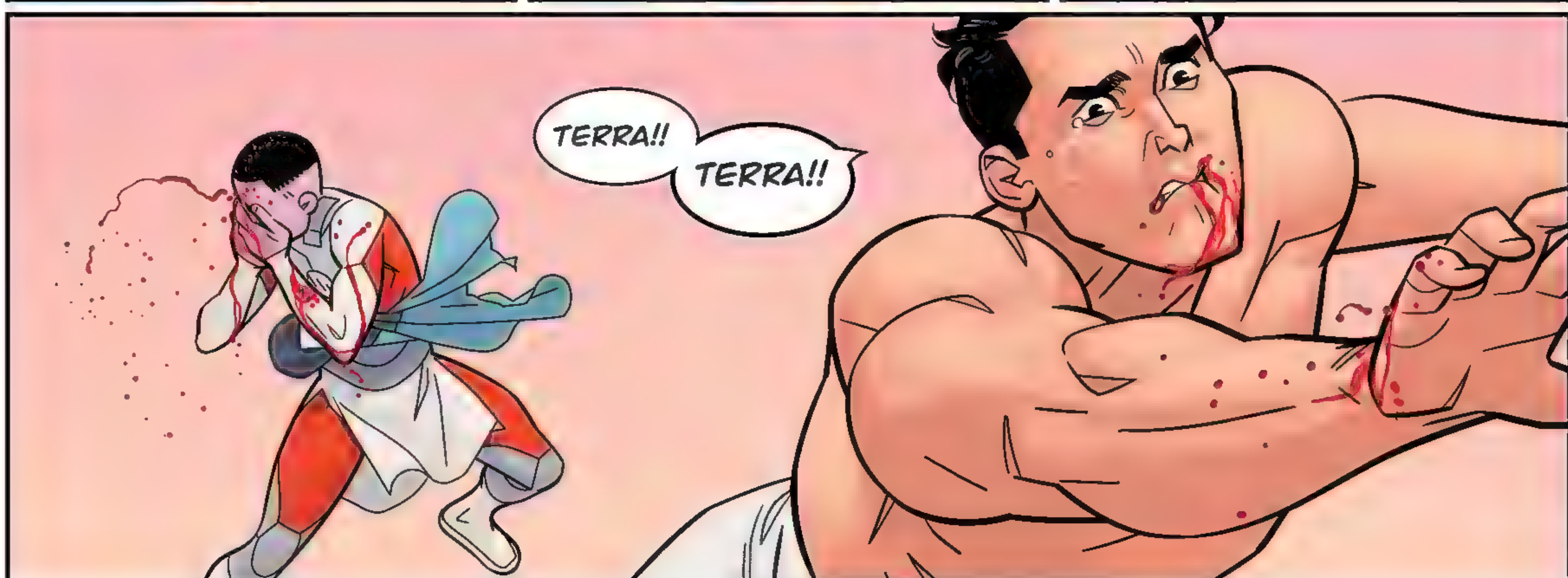
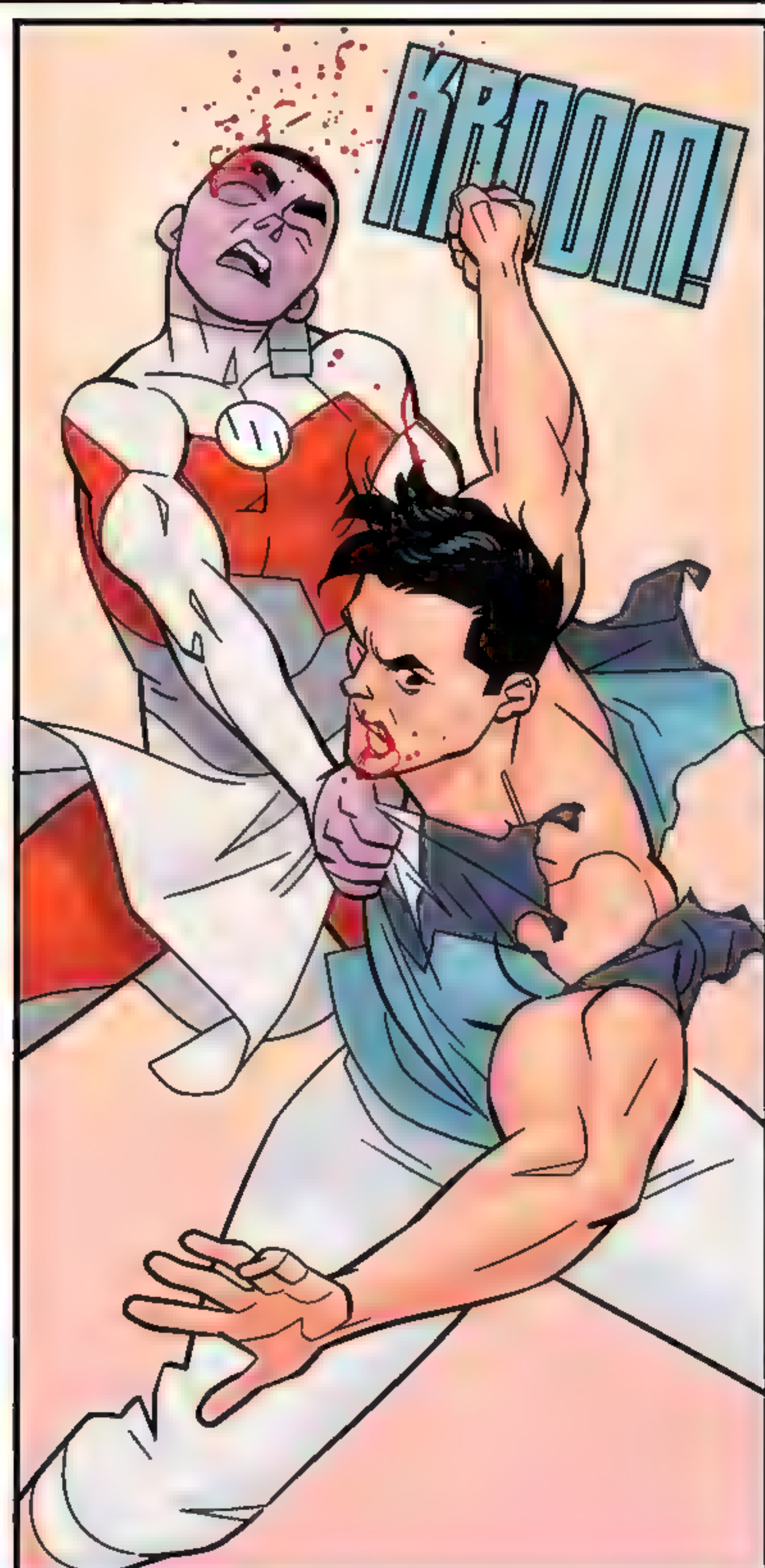


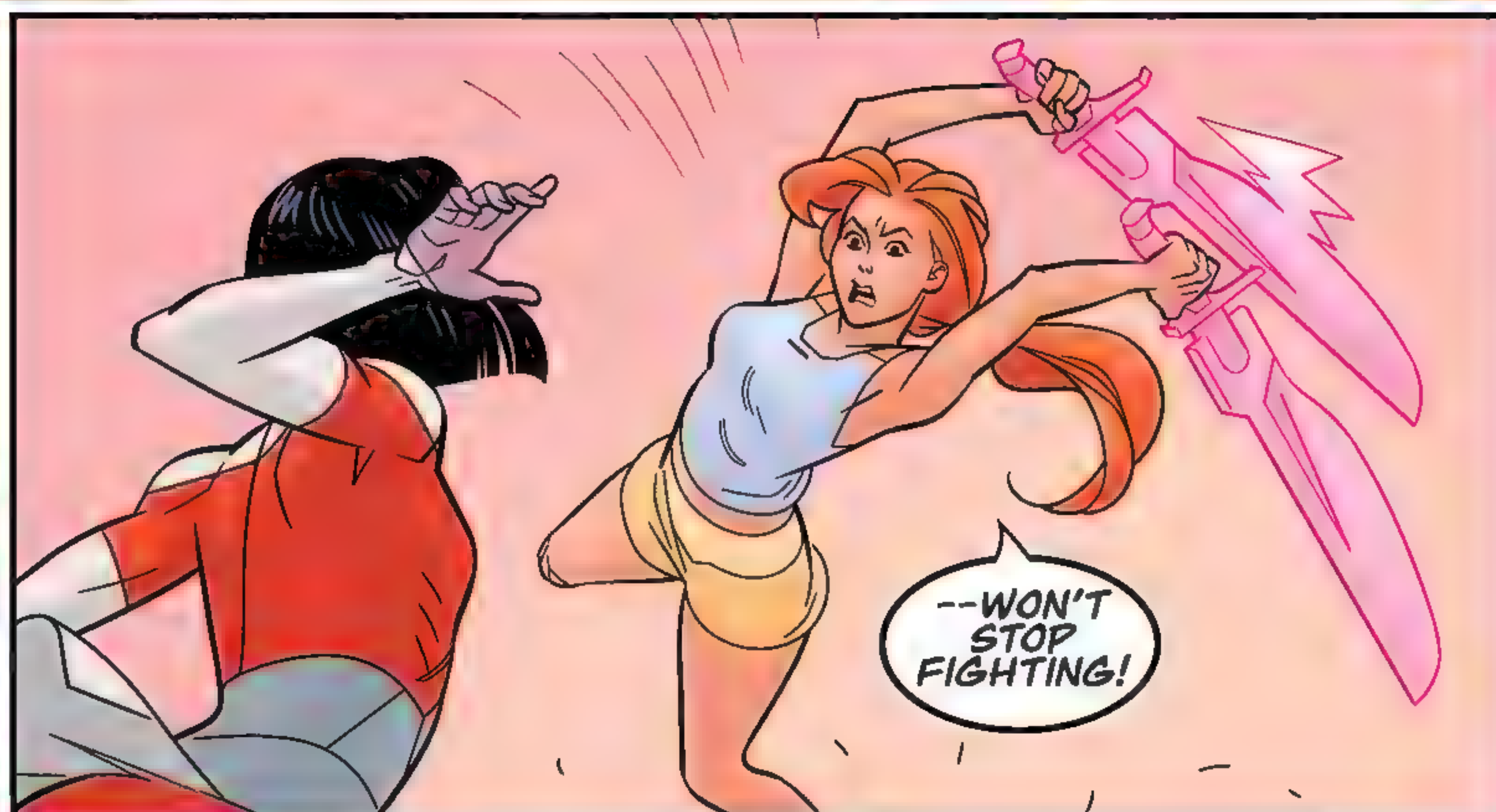
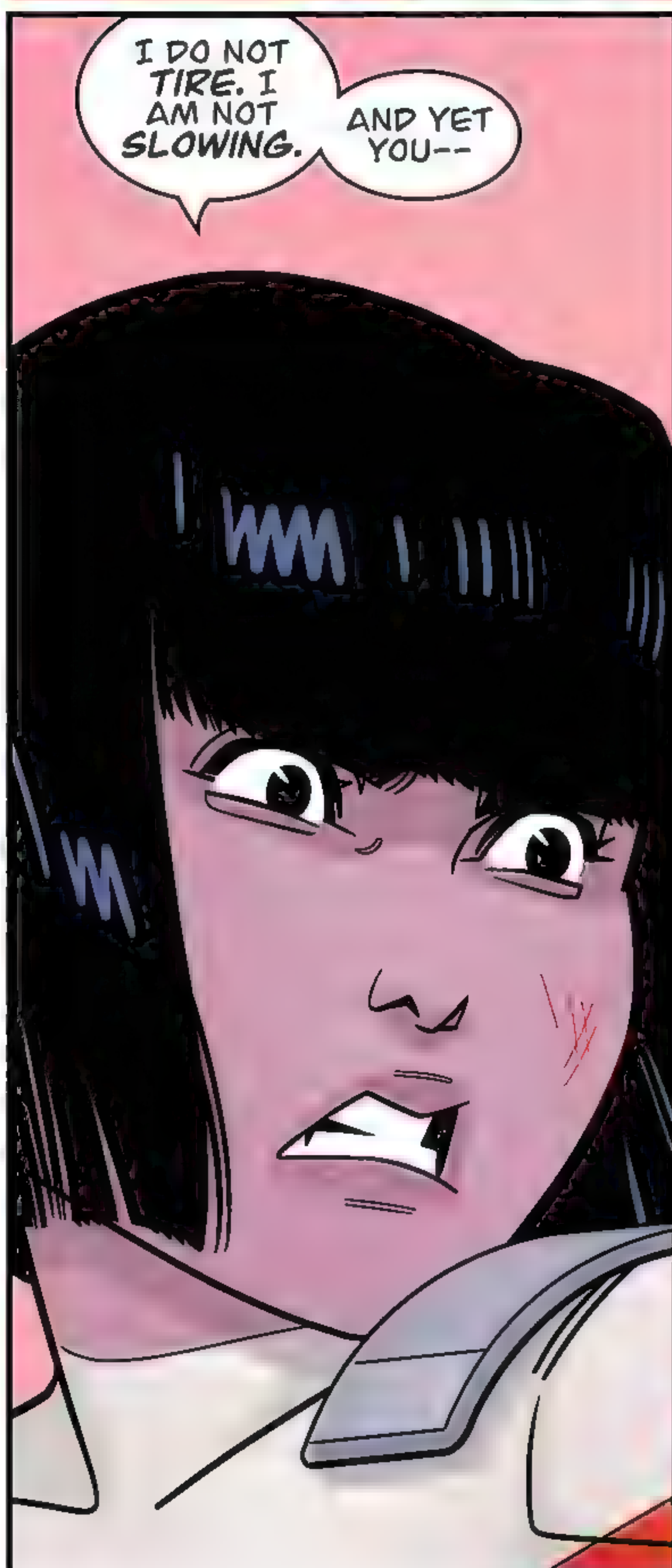
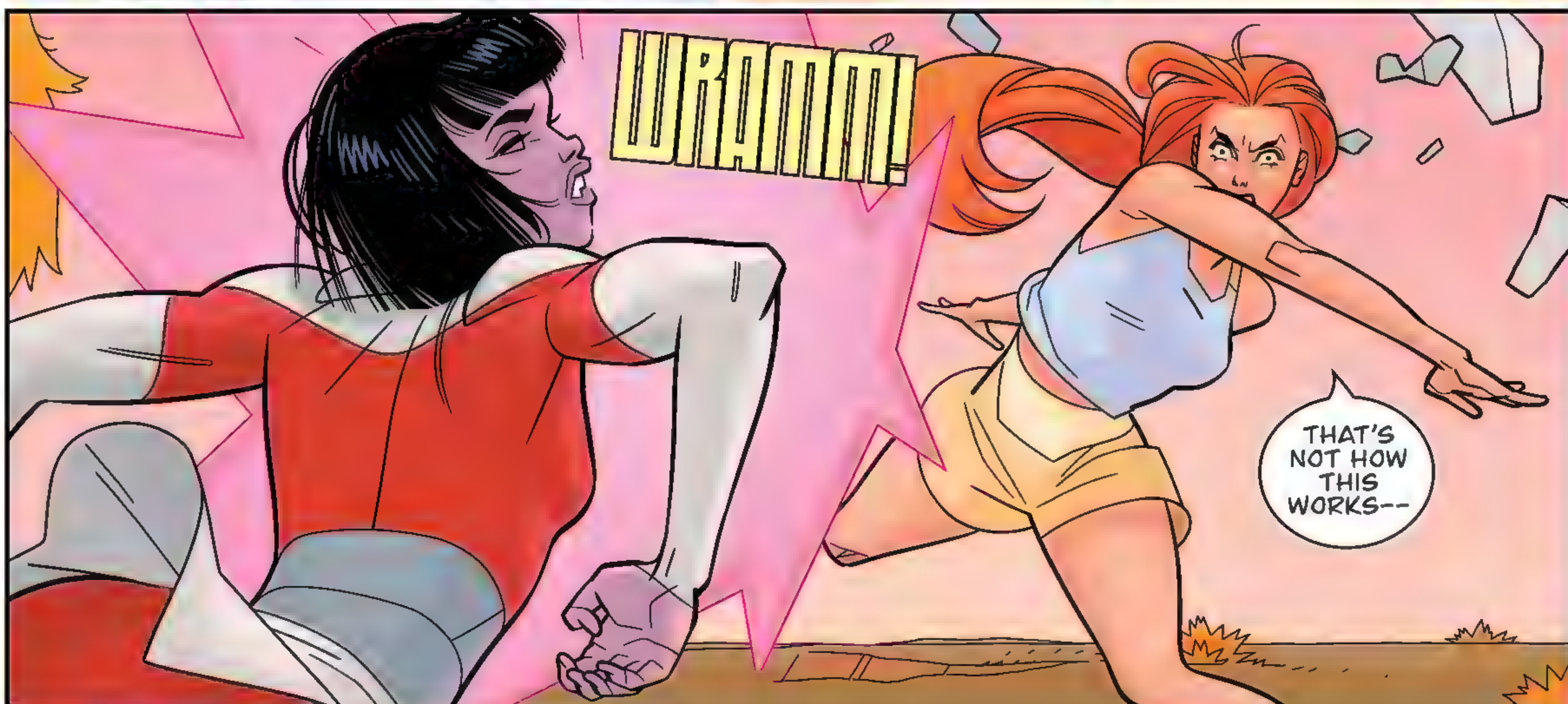
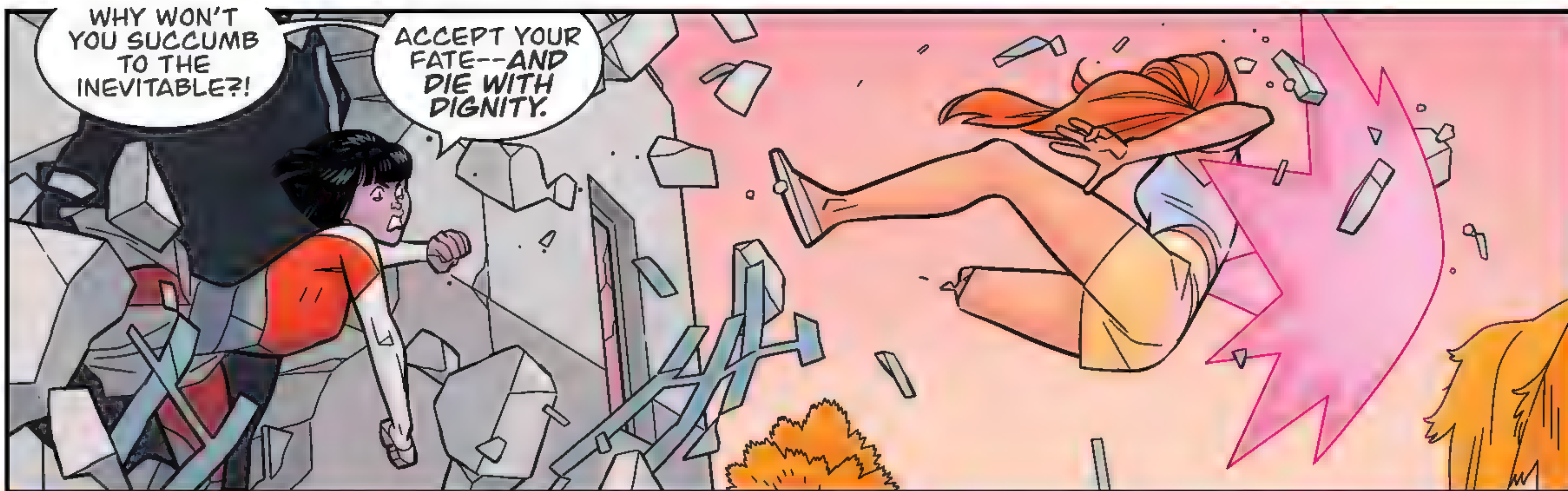
SHAME...

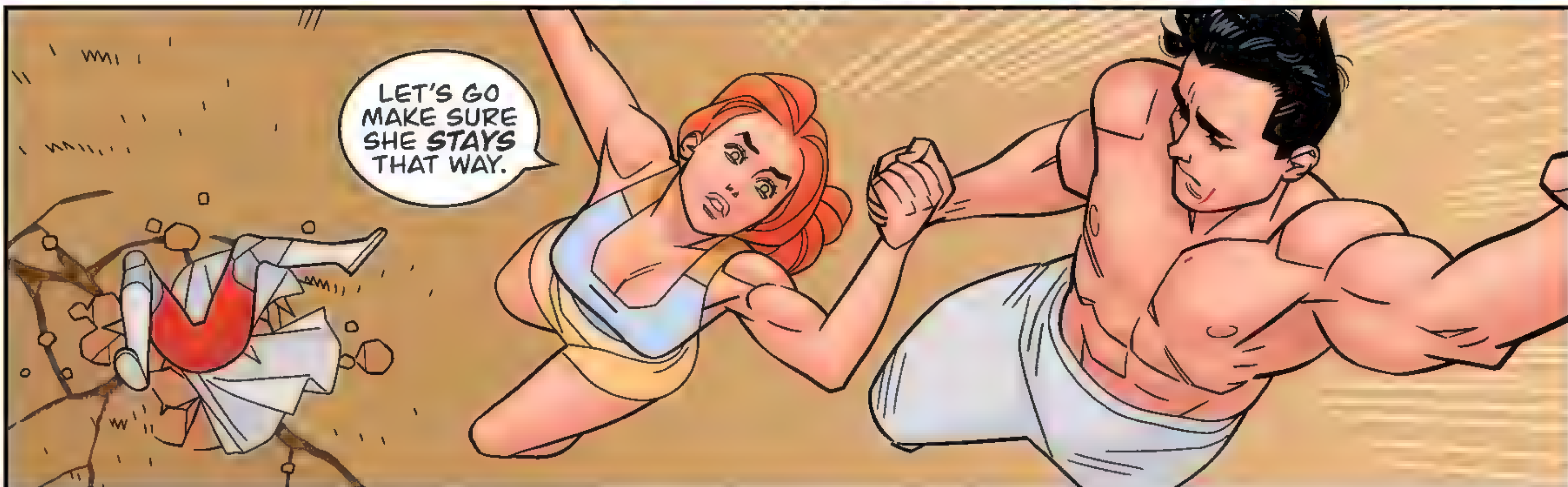
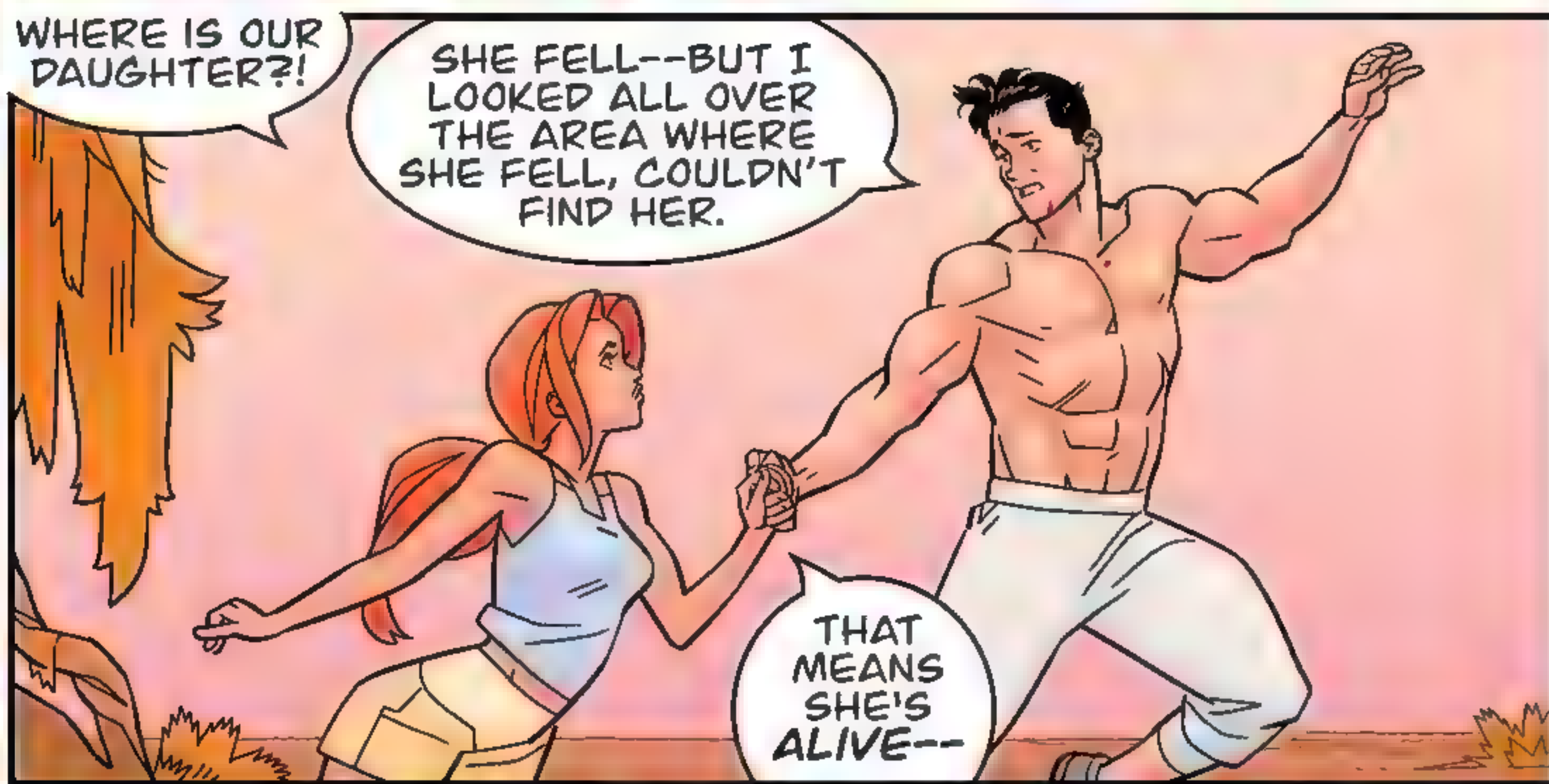
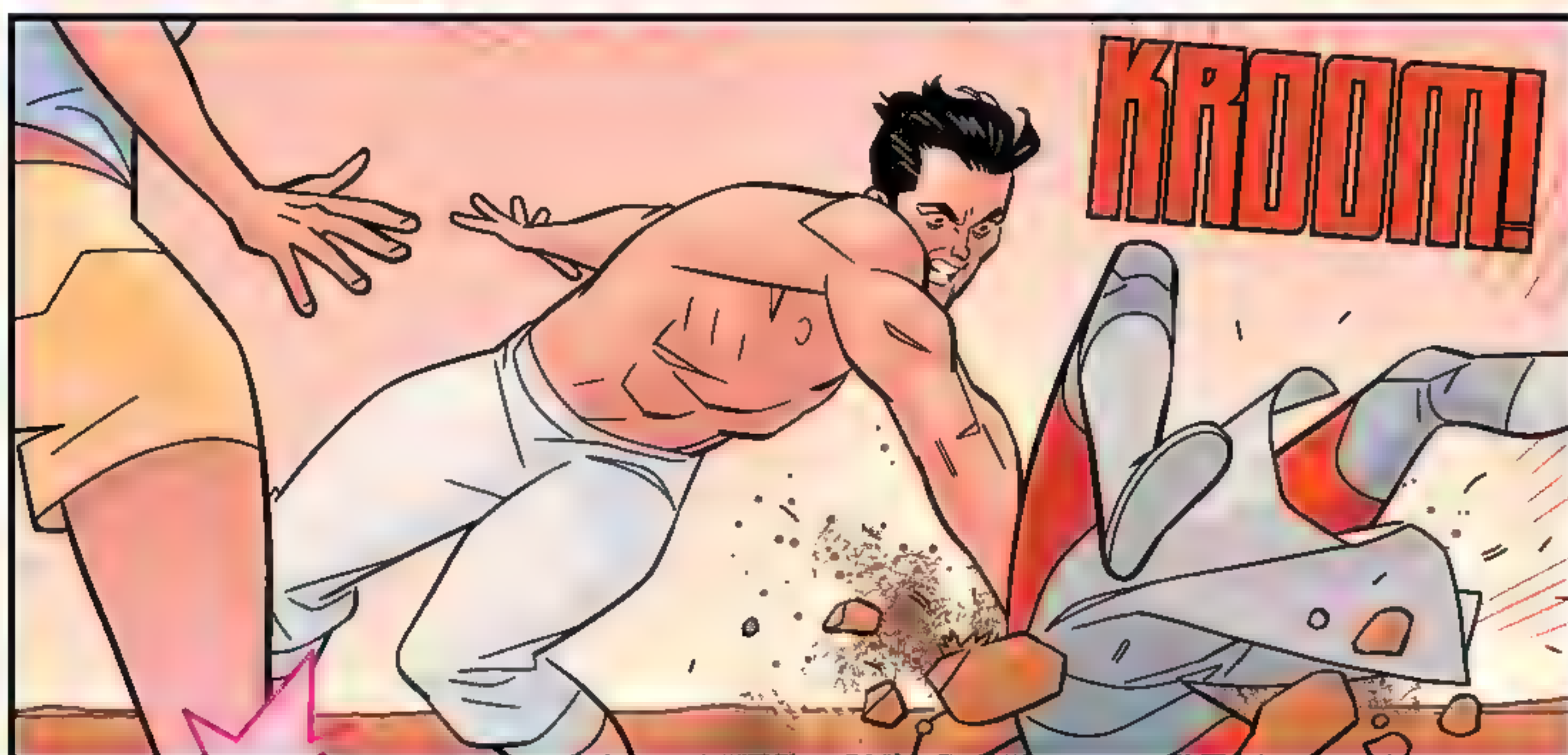
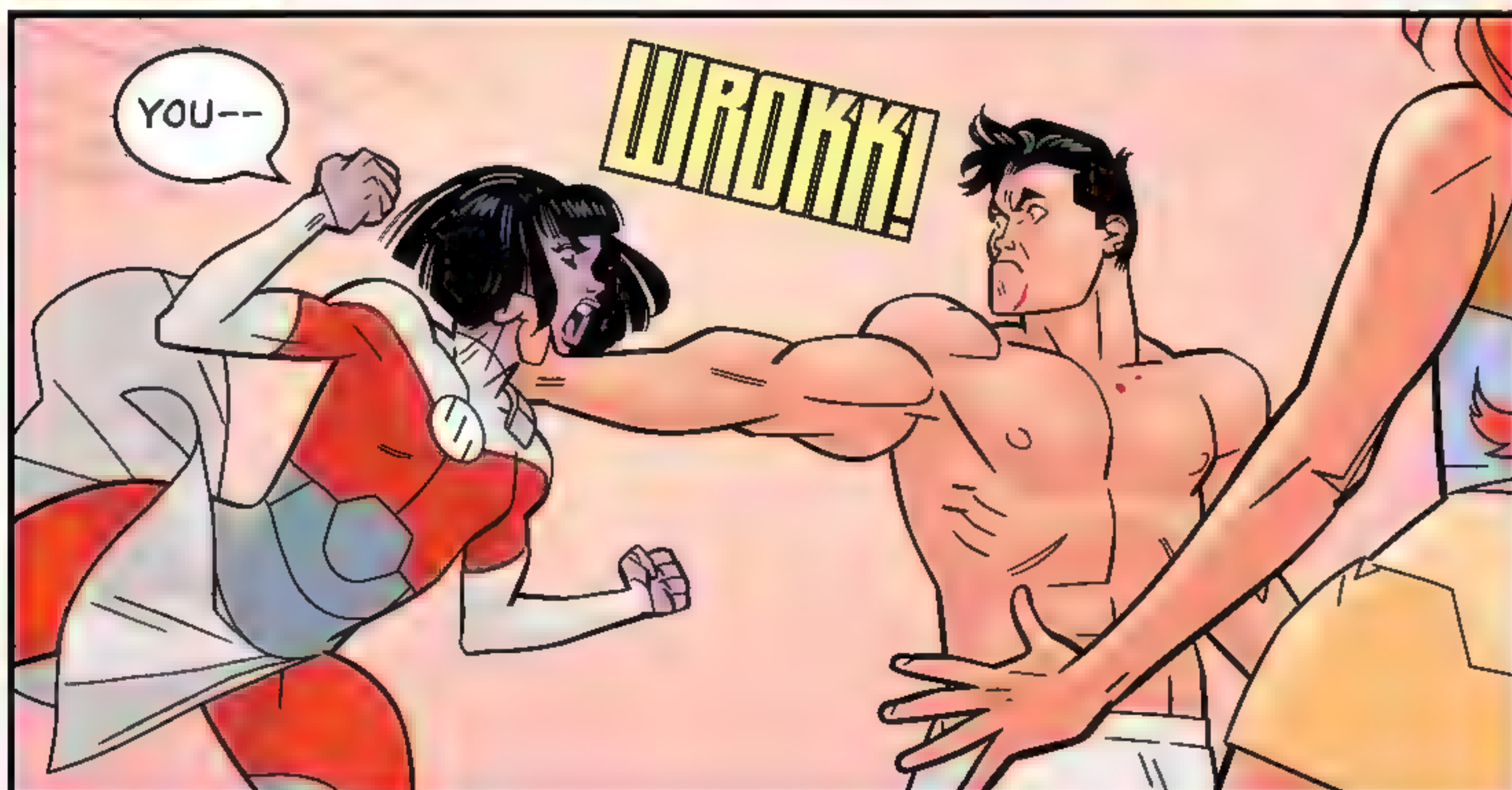
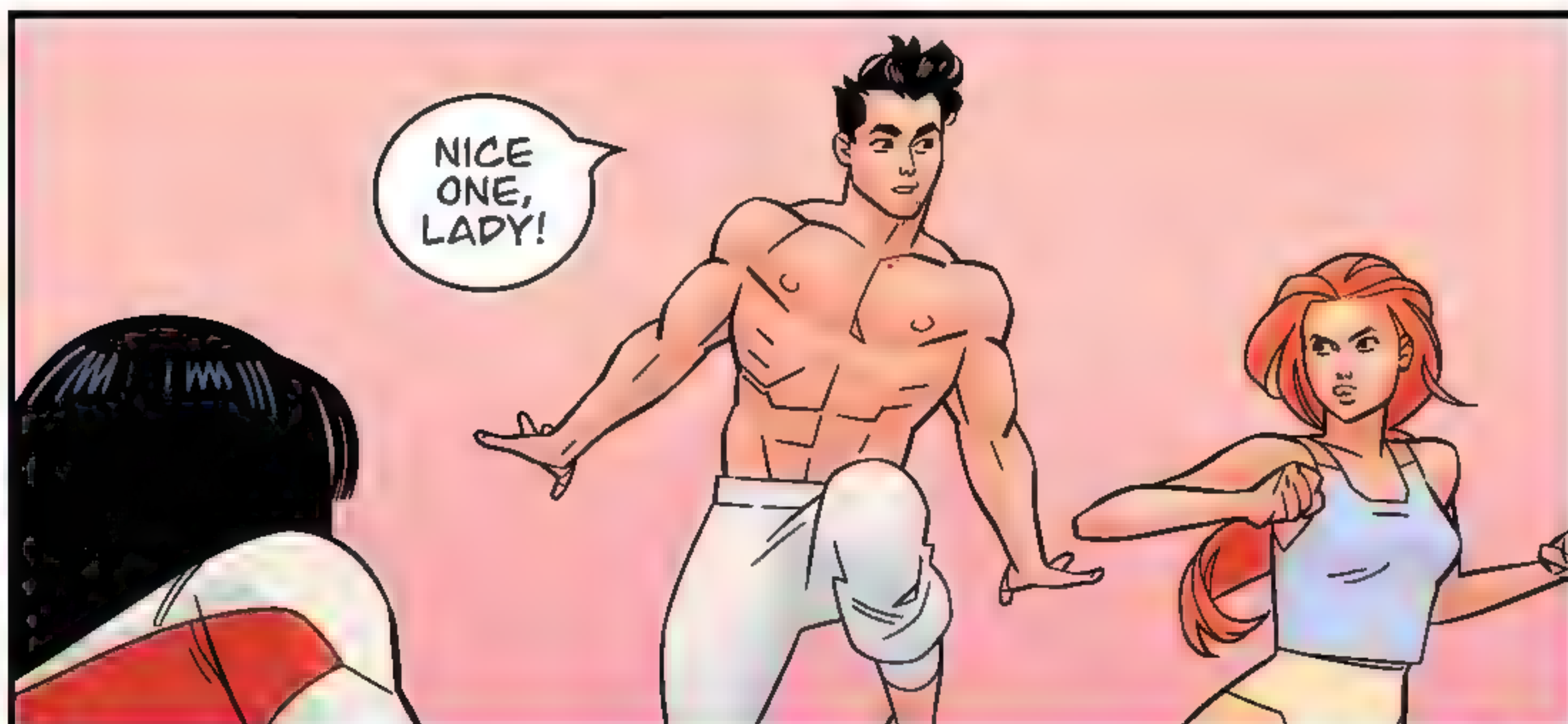
...FALLING
WOULD HAVE
BEEN A FAR
LESS PAINFUL
DEATH...



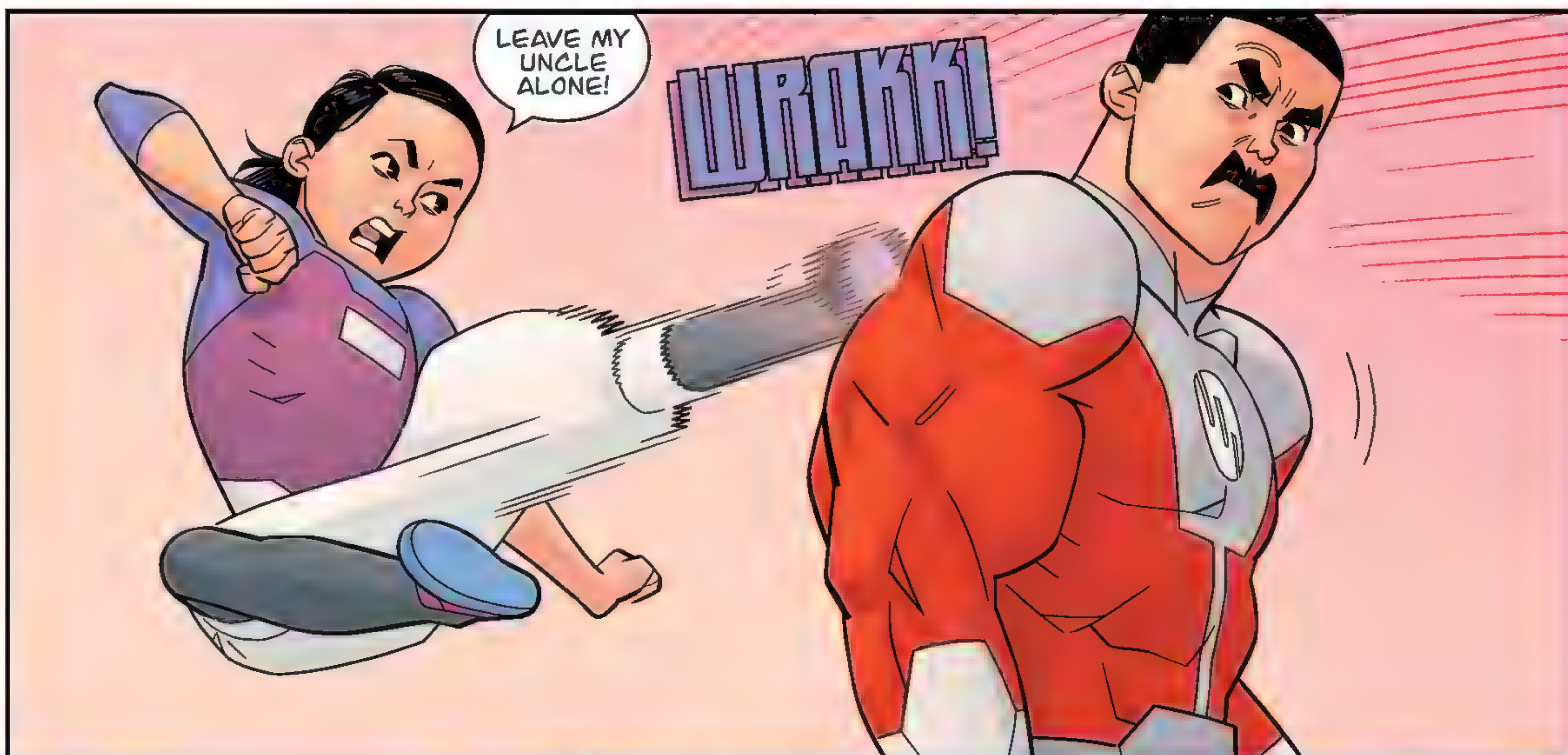


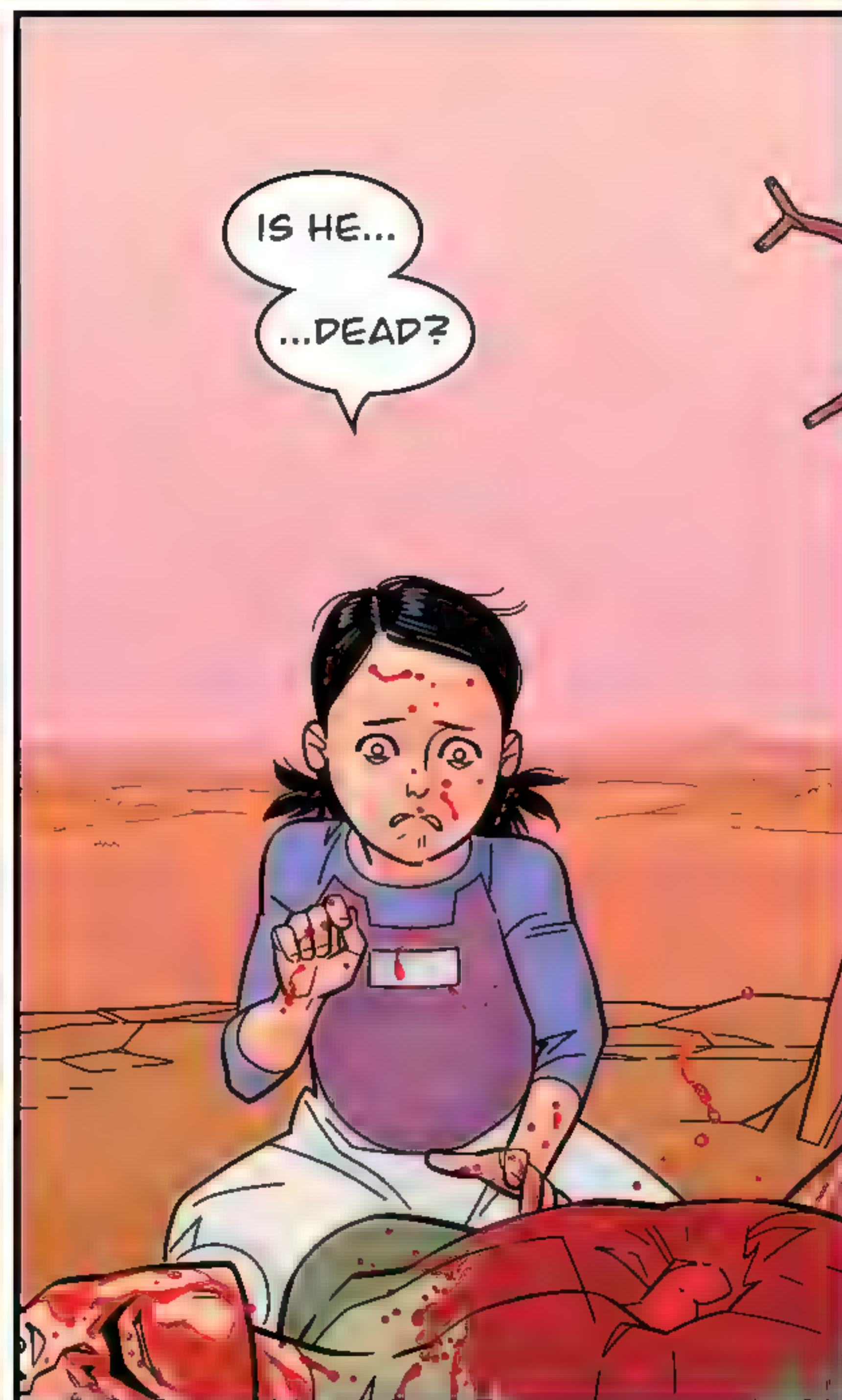














DON'T BE AFRAID, CHILD.

IT SERVES NO PURPOSE.

IT WON'T SAVE YOU.



WHAT IS TAKING THOSE PARENTS OF YOURS SO LONG, ANYWAY?

SURELY THEY---



YOU HAVE MY DAUGHTER. I HAVE YOUR SON.

THIS CAN END HERE. JUST LET HER GO.

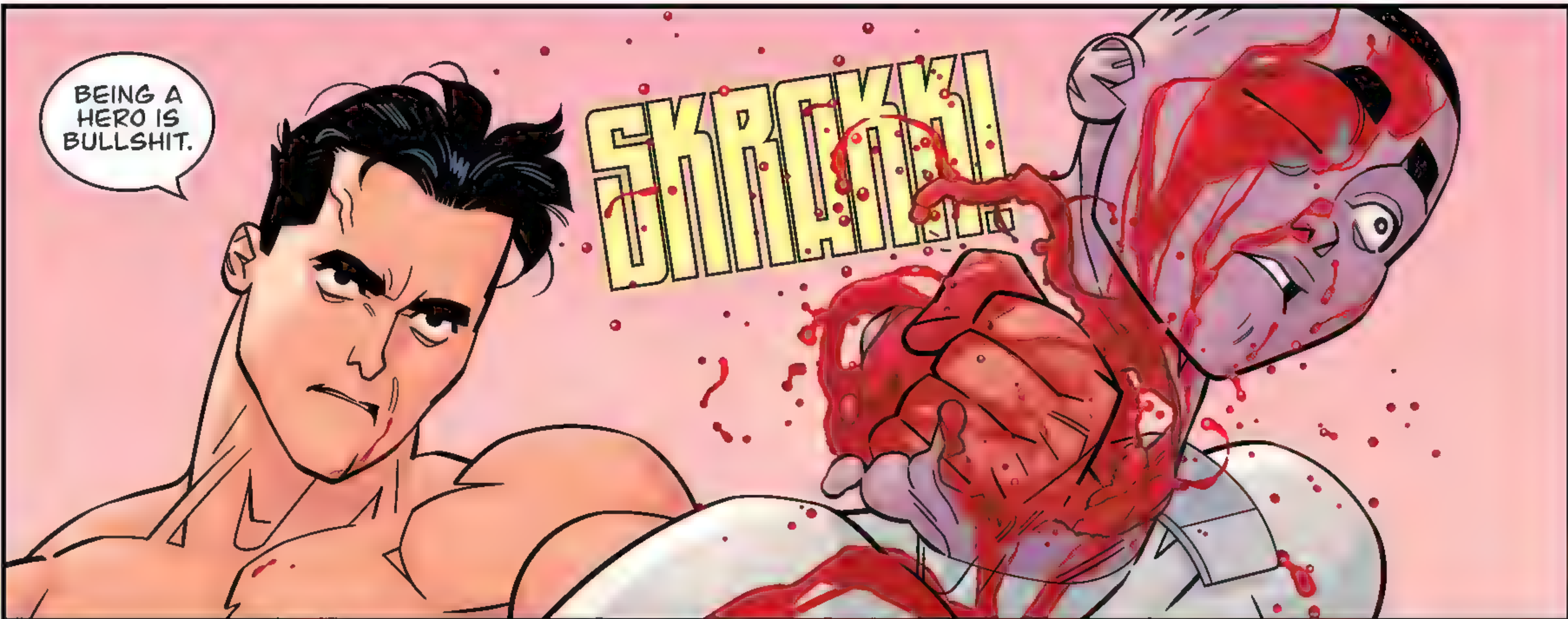
JUST... THRAGG... DON'T KILL HER.

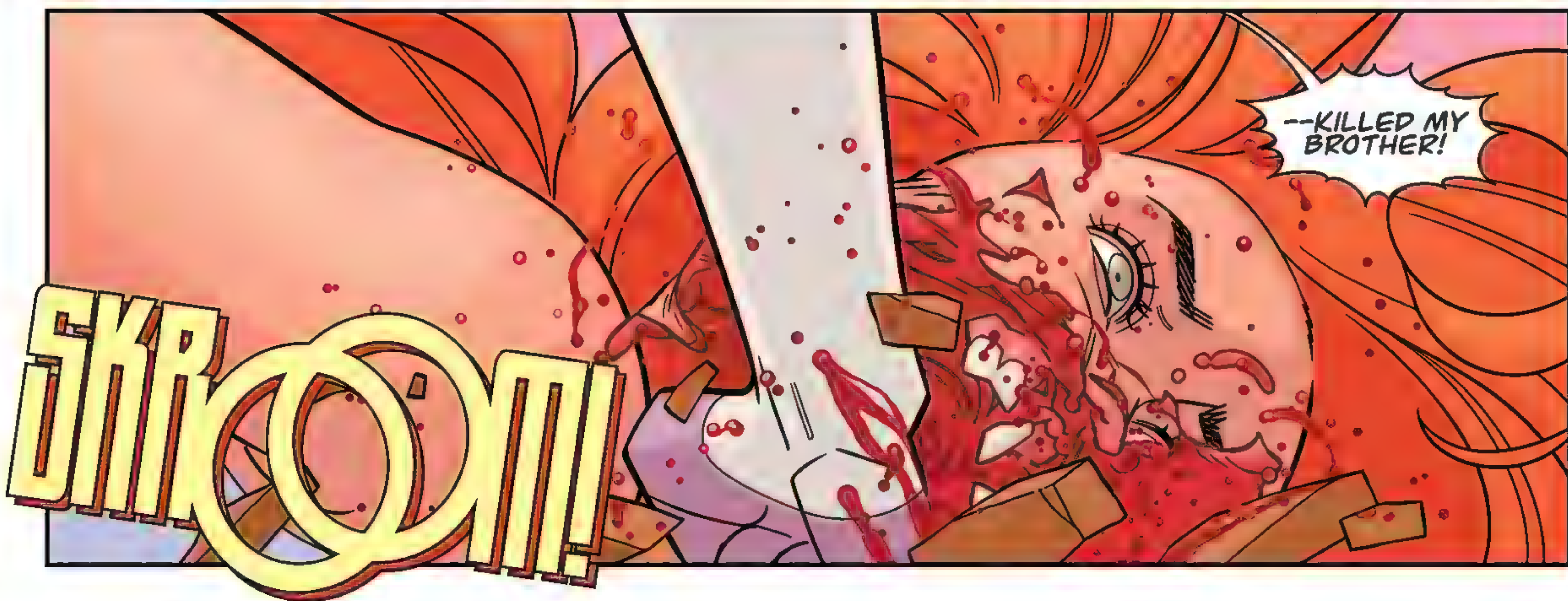
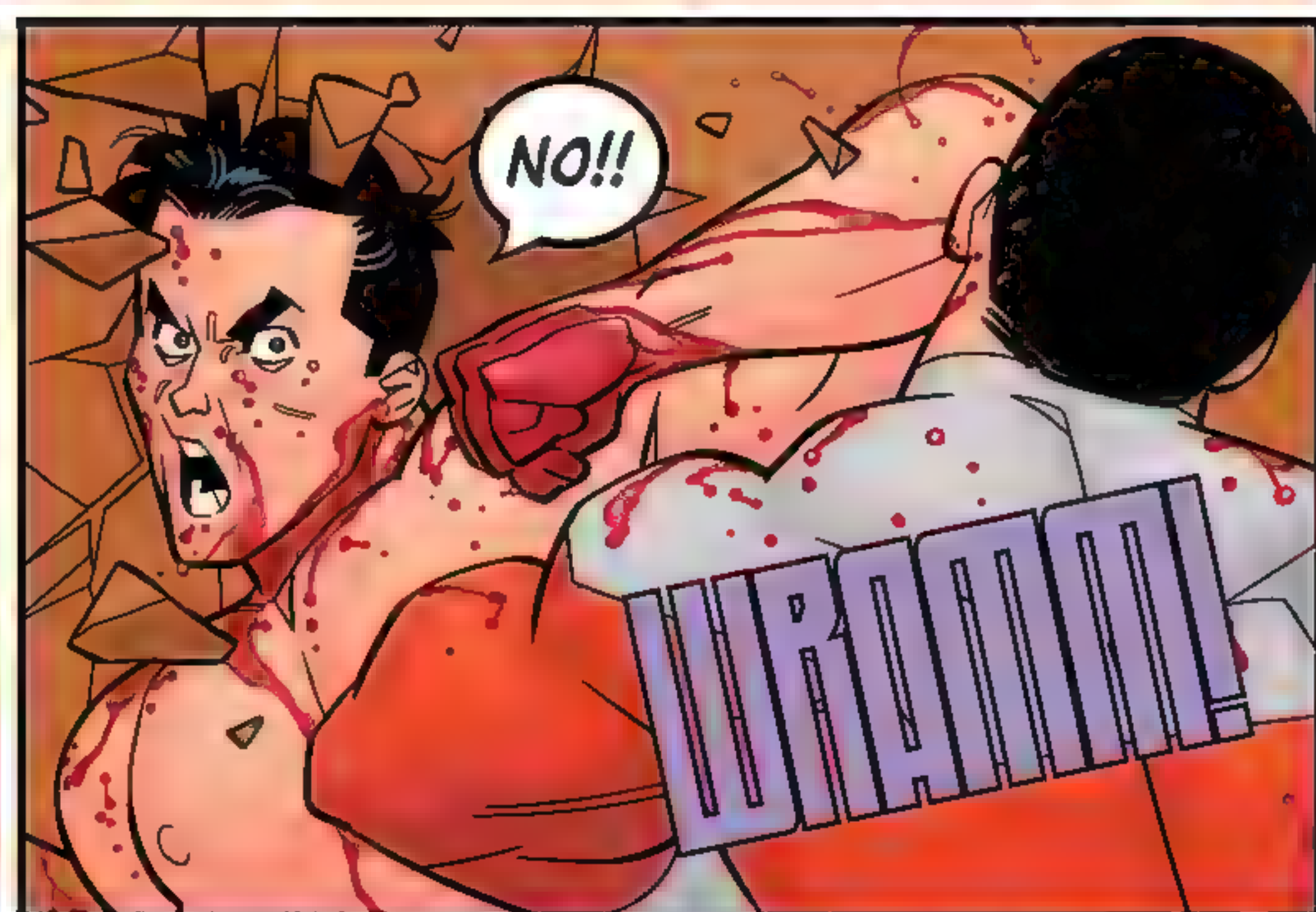
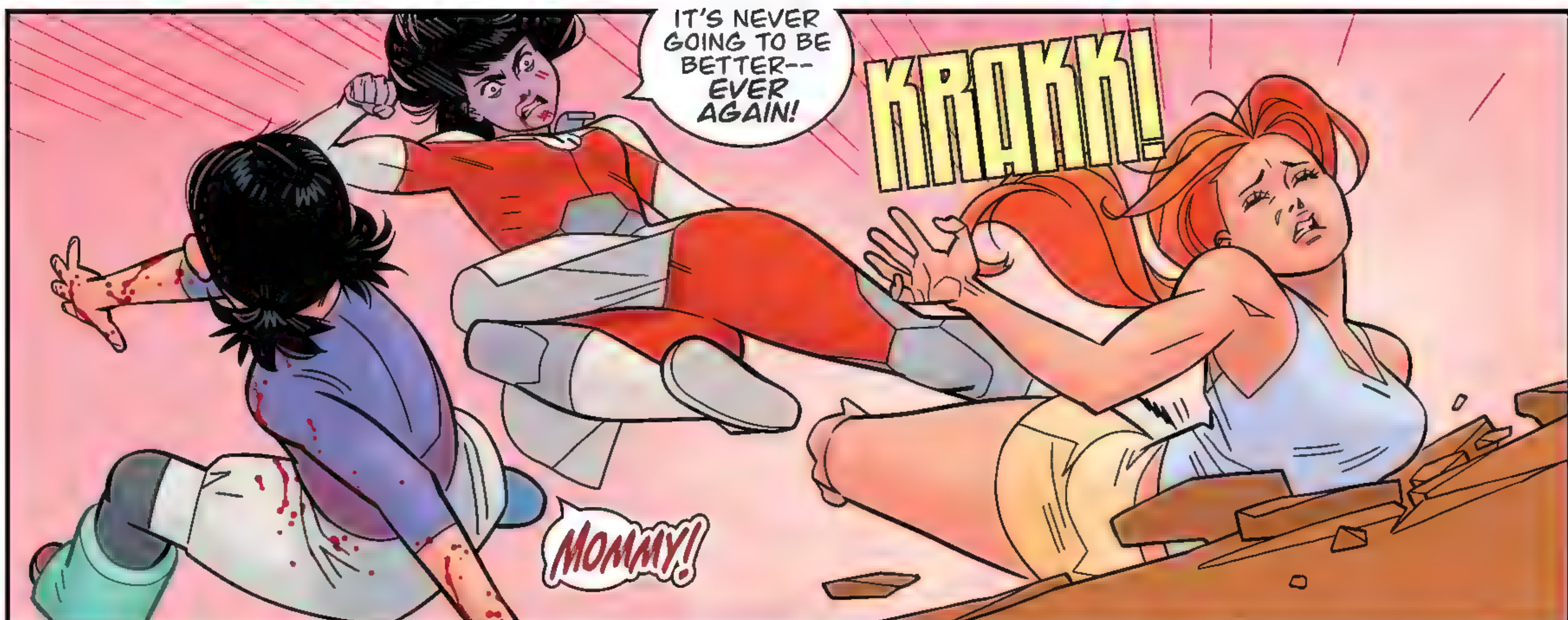


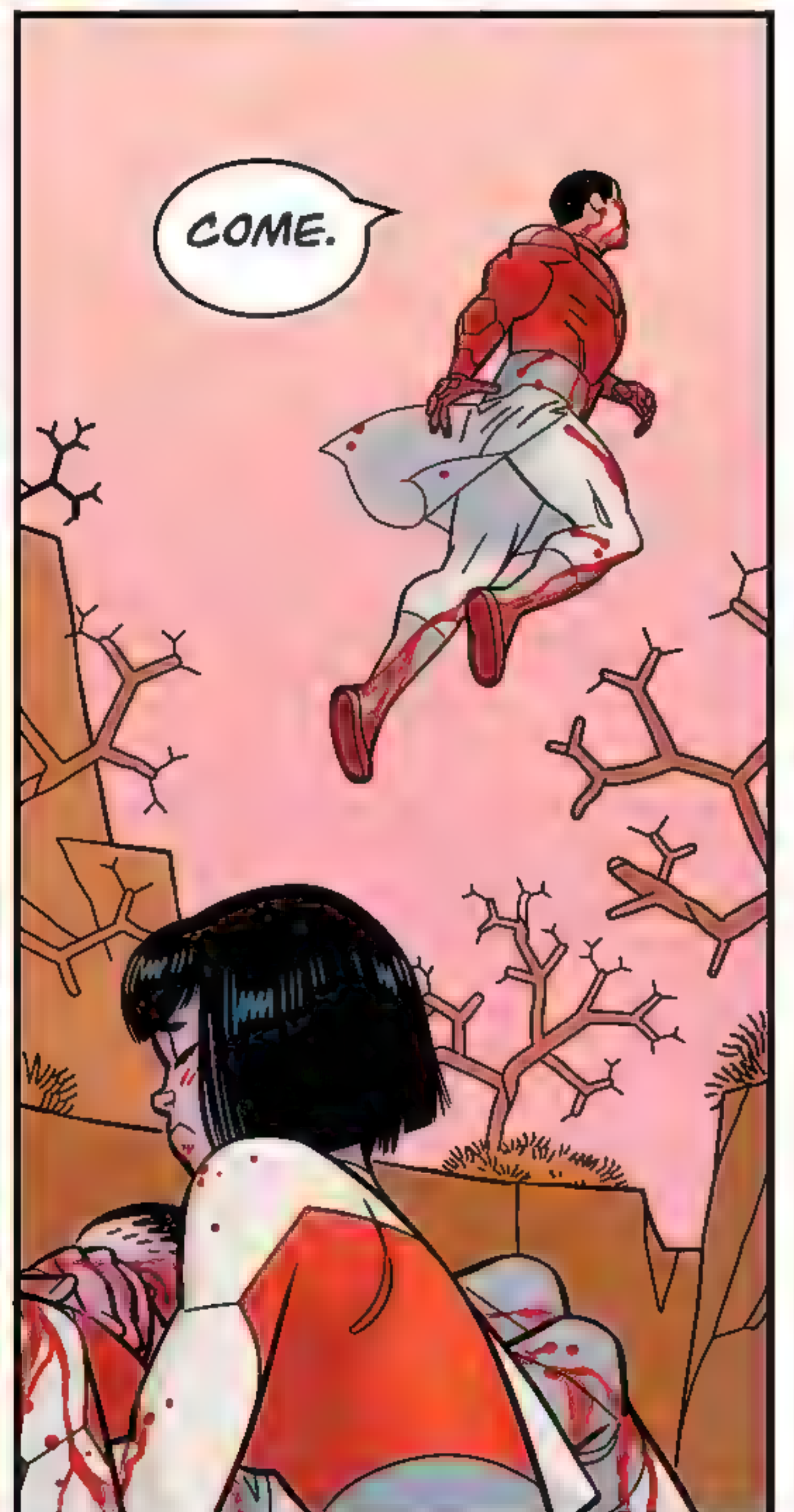
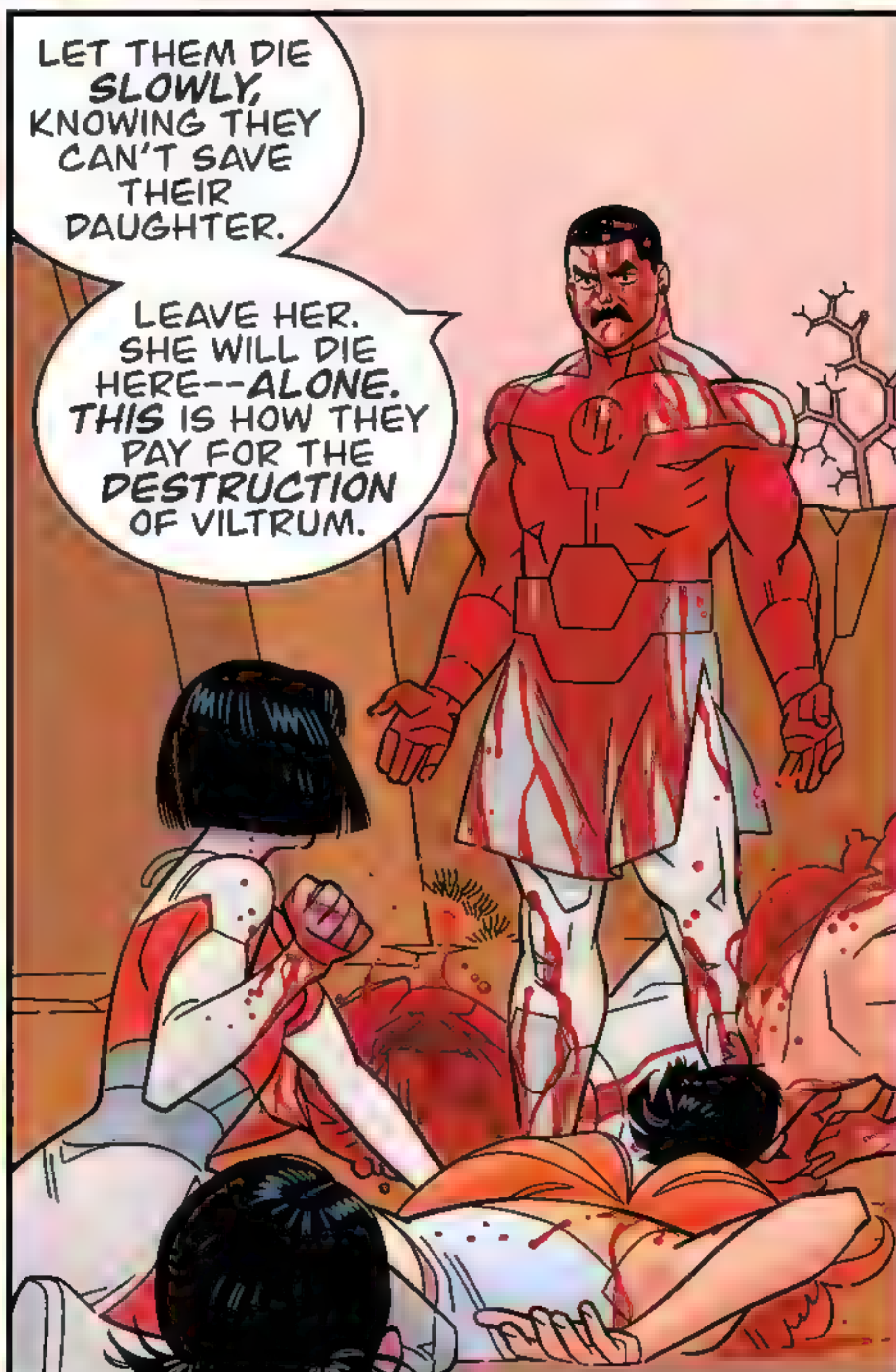
YOUR BROTHER BETRAYED YOU. HE WAS WORKING FOR ME... BUT HE JUST COULDN'T LET ME KILL YOU. THAT MAKES HIM **USELESS** TO ME. A TRAITOR TO HIS KIND--SEEMS TO RUN IN YOUR FAMILY, DOESN'T IT?

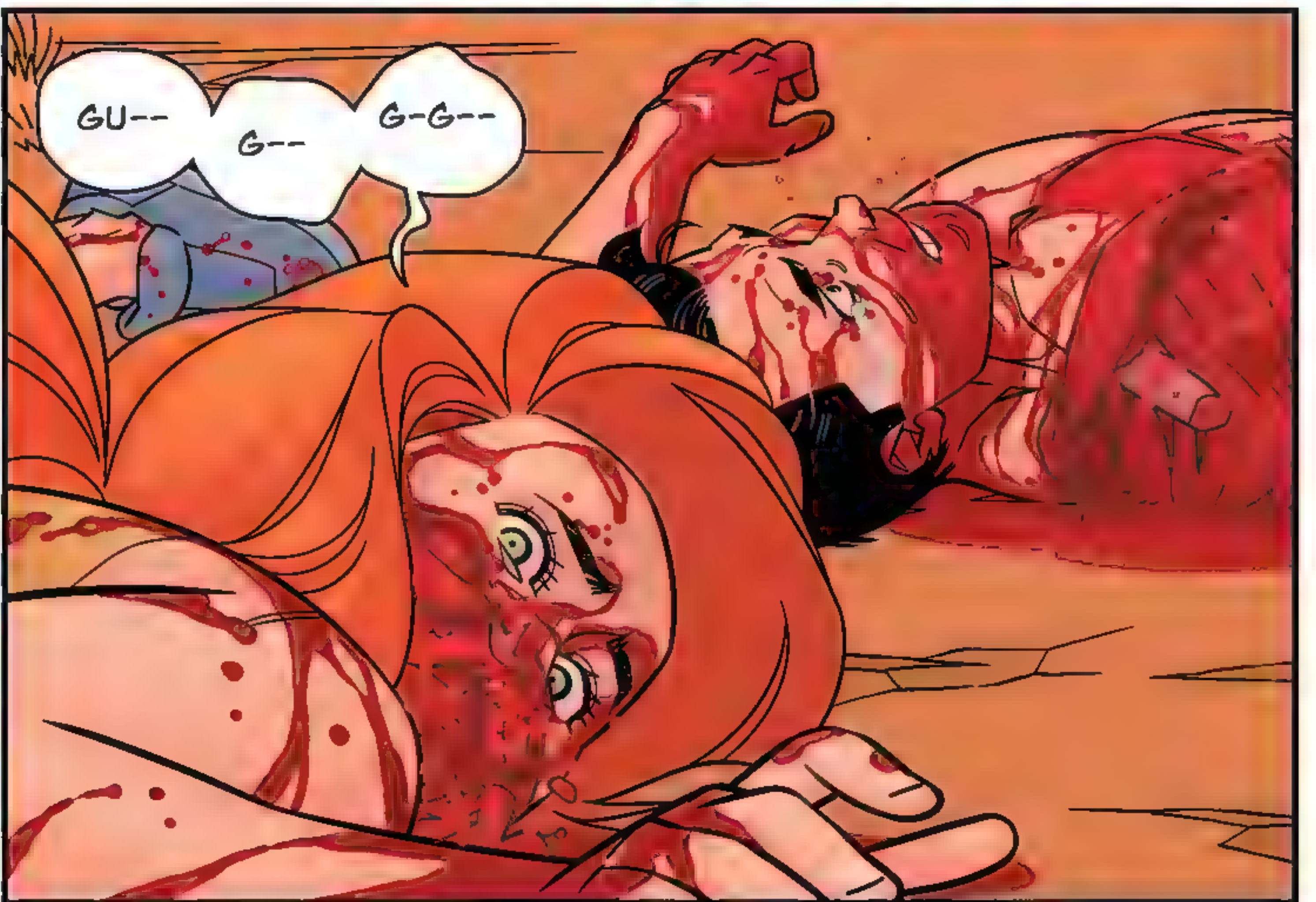
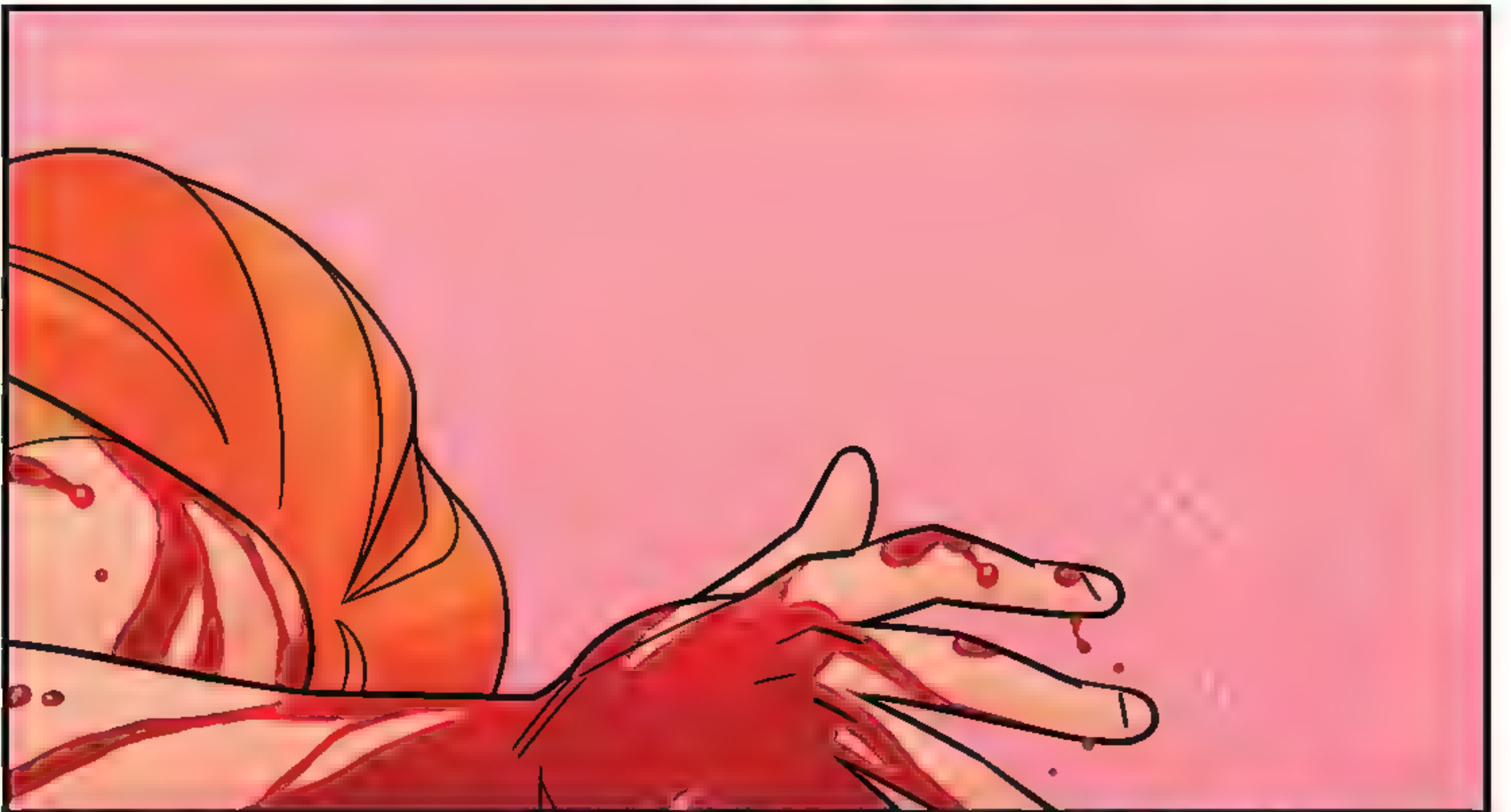
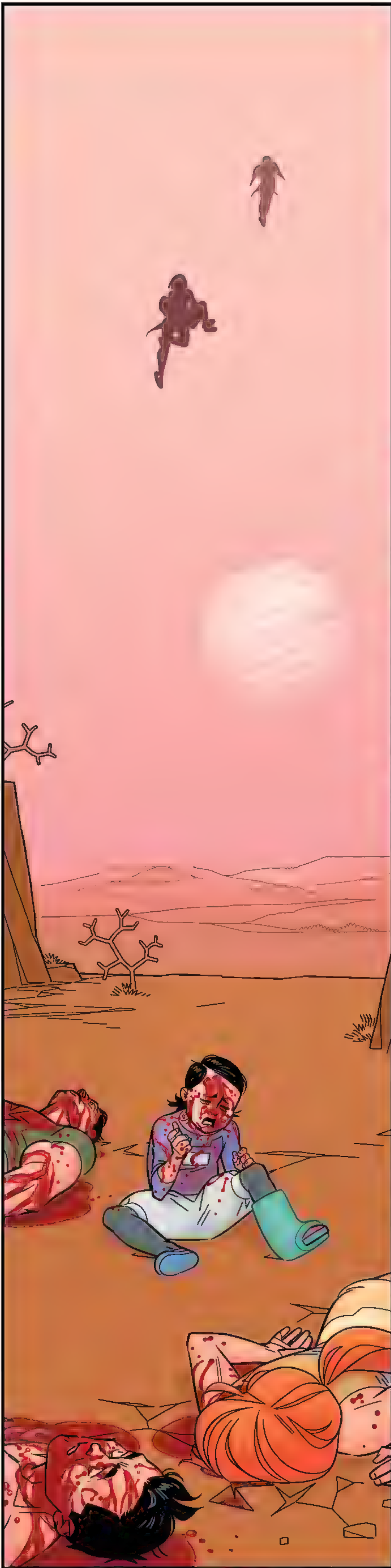
YOU THINK I BELIEVE FOR ONE SECOND MY CHILD IS IN DANGER? YOU FIGHT FOR WHAT'S **RIGHT**. THAT'S YOUR WEAKNESS. YOU ALWAYS DO WHAT IS **HEROIC**.

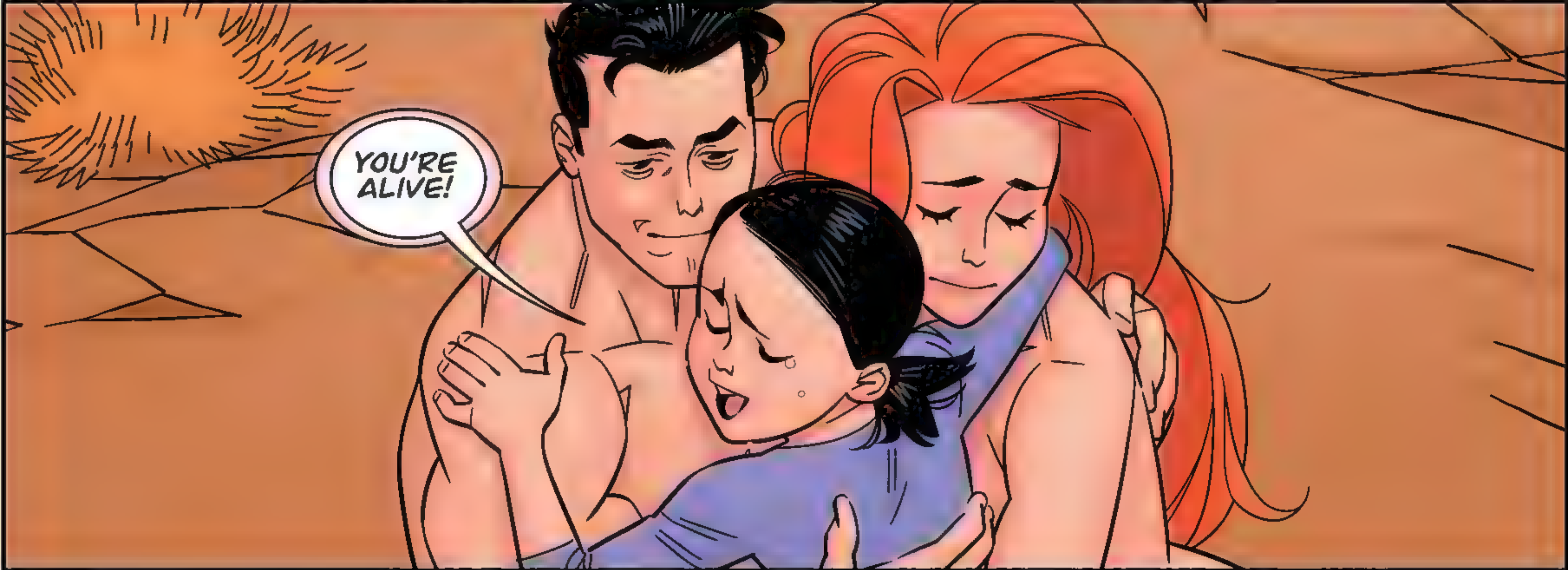
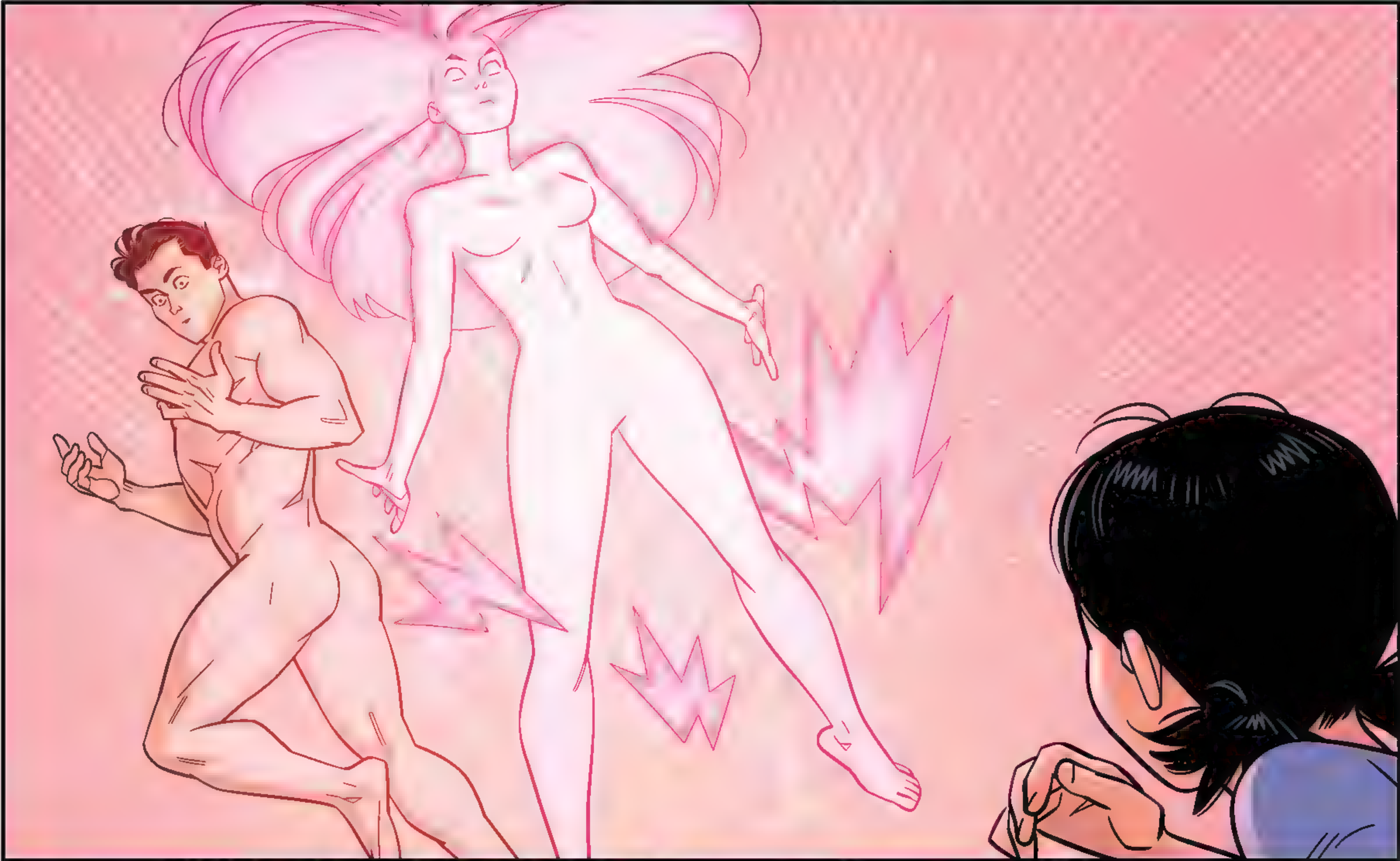
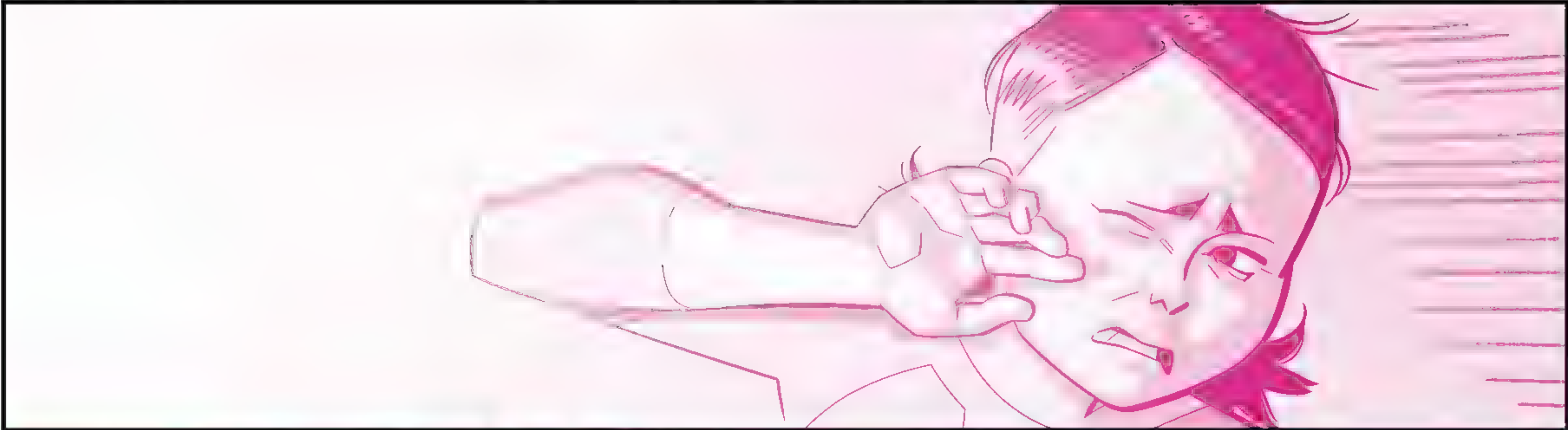
THAT'S WHY EVERYONE AROUND YOU WILL **DIE**.

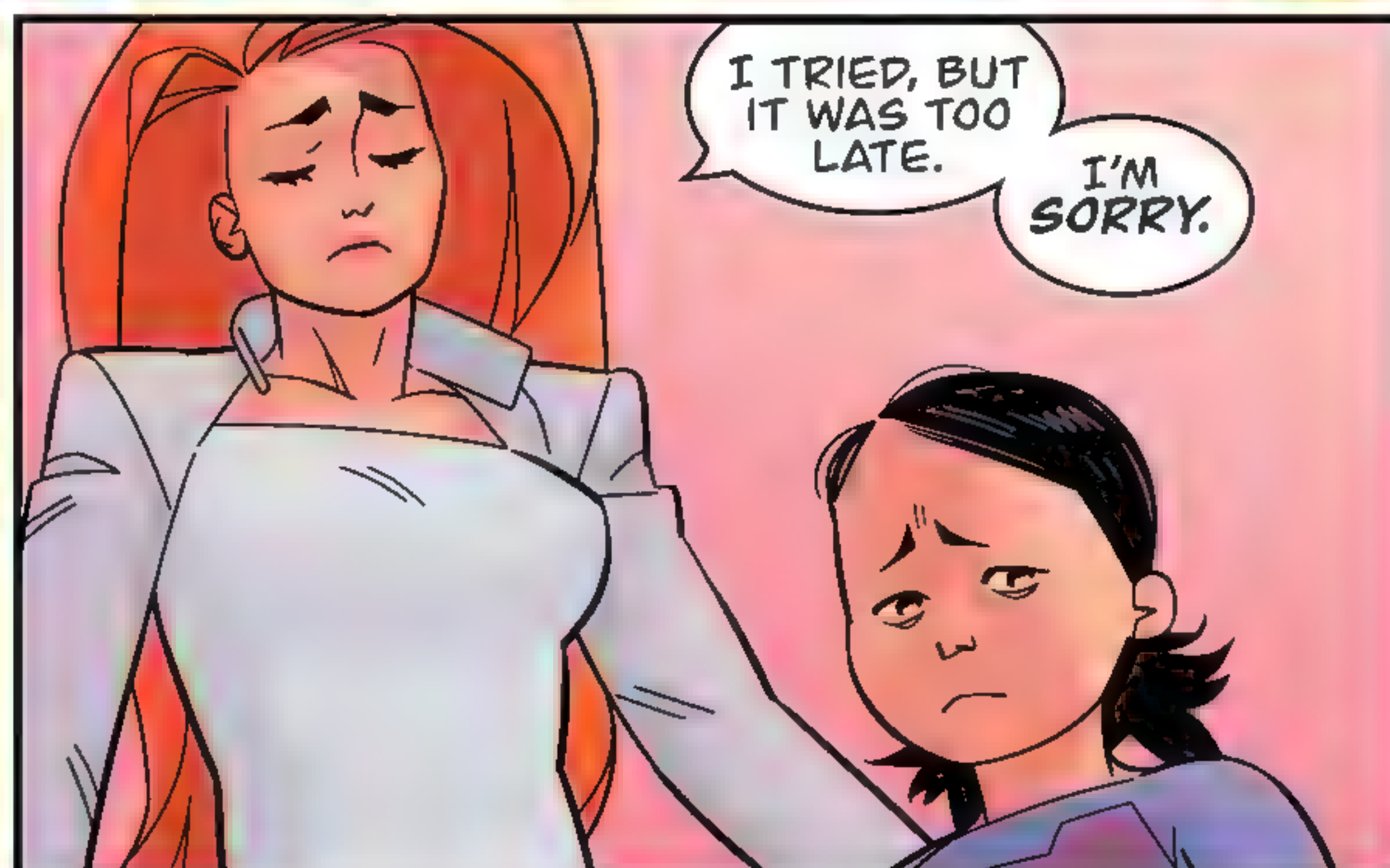
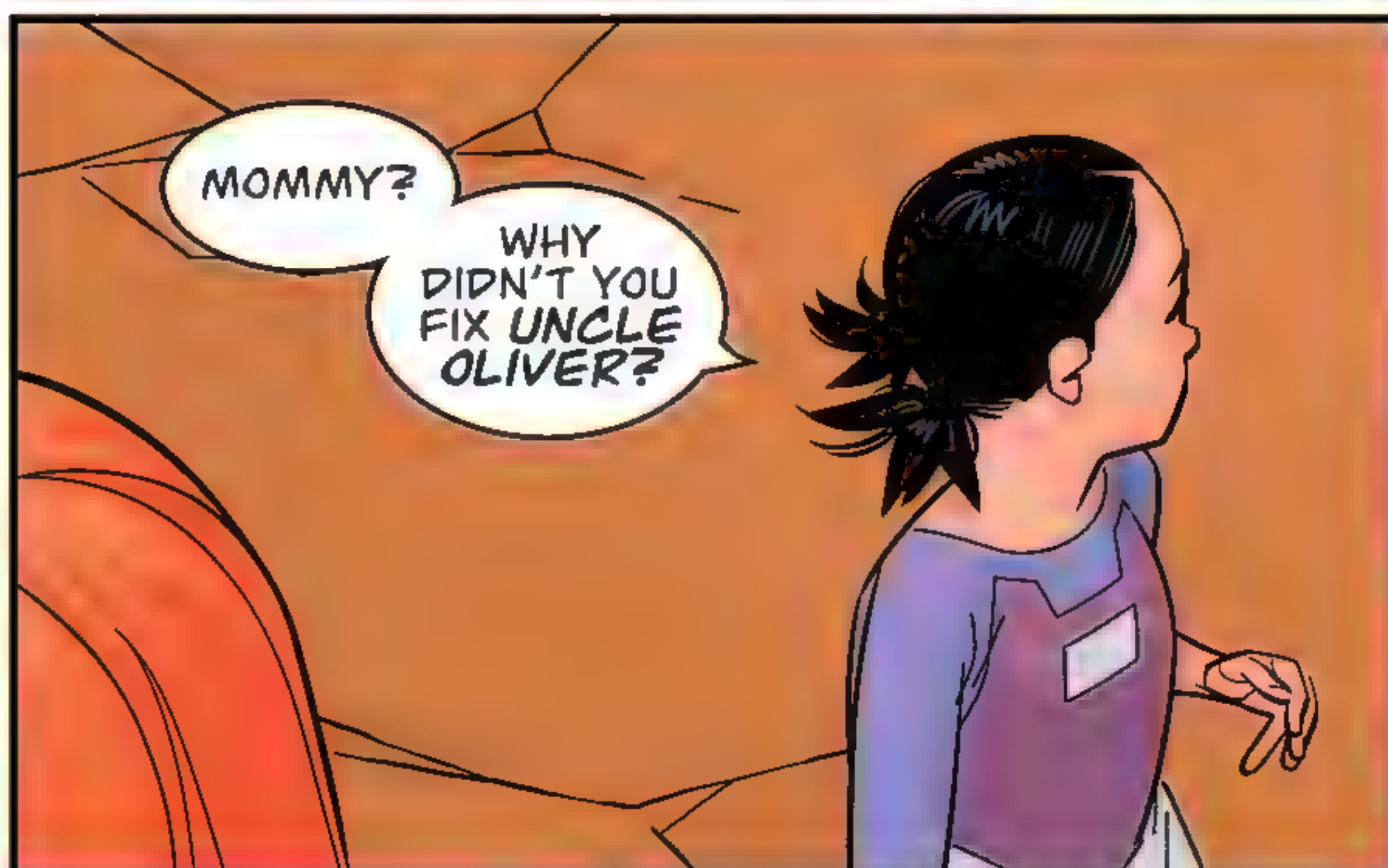
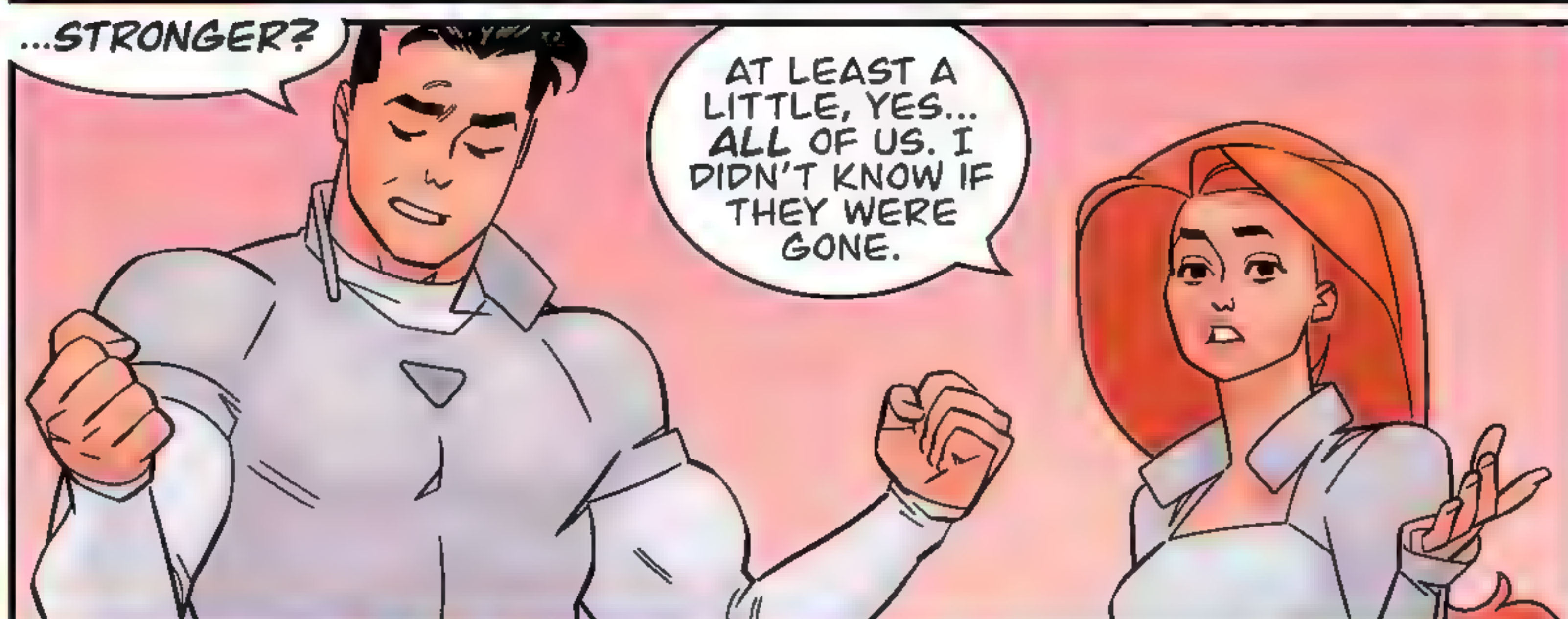
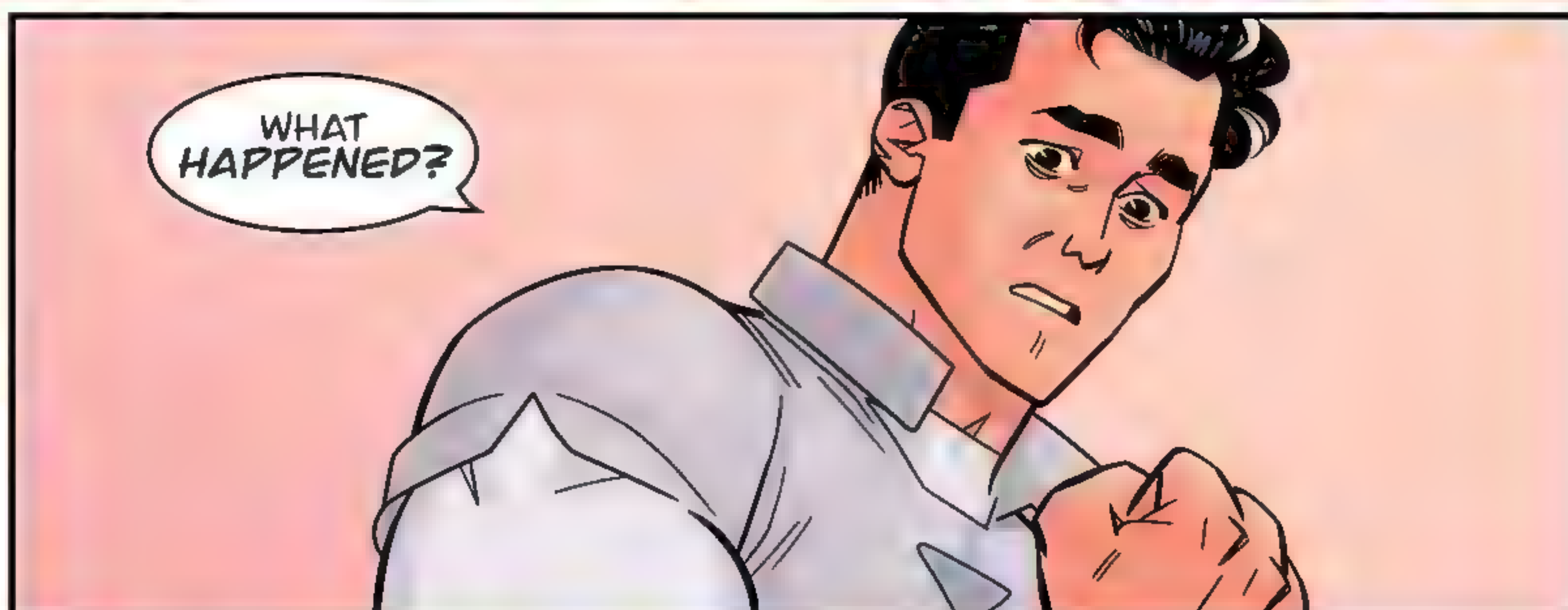
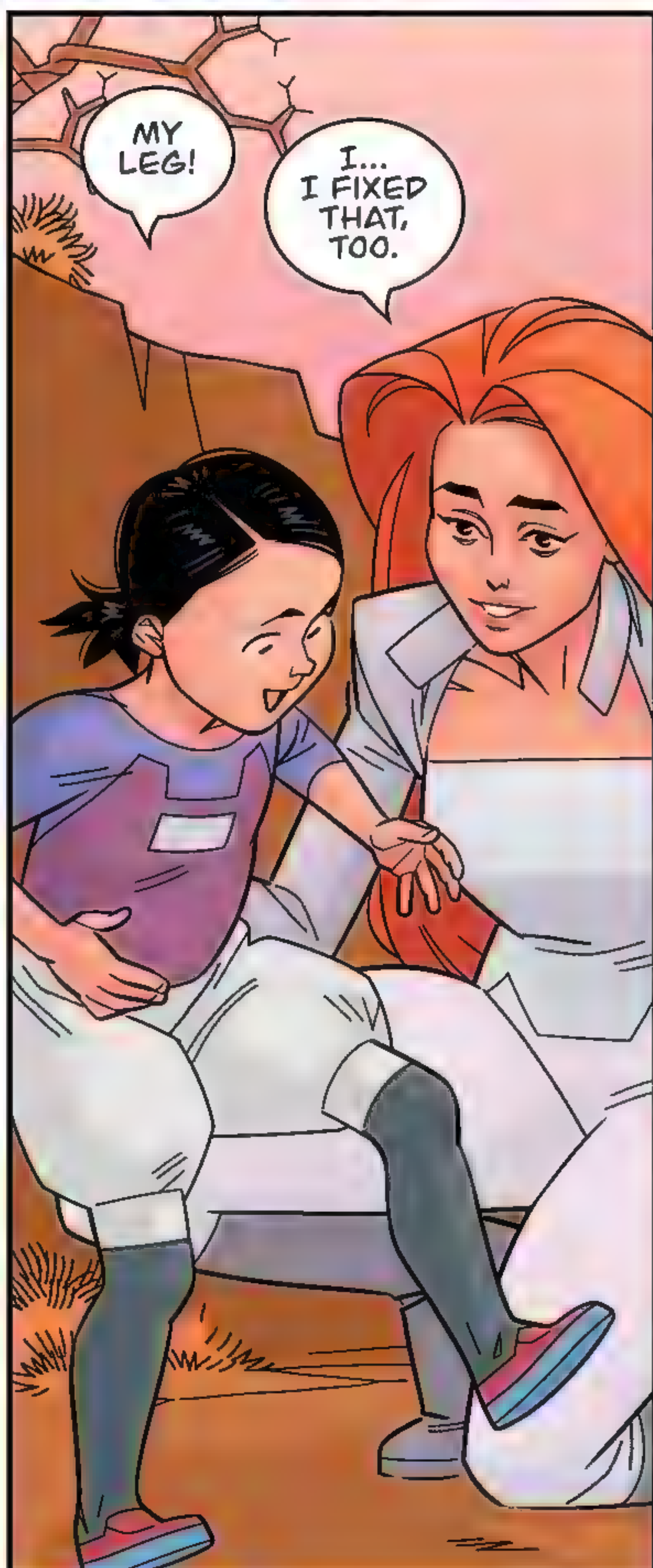
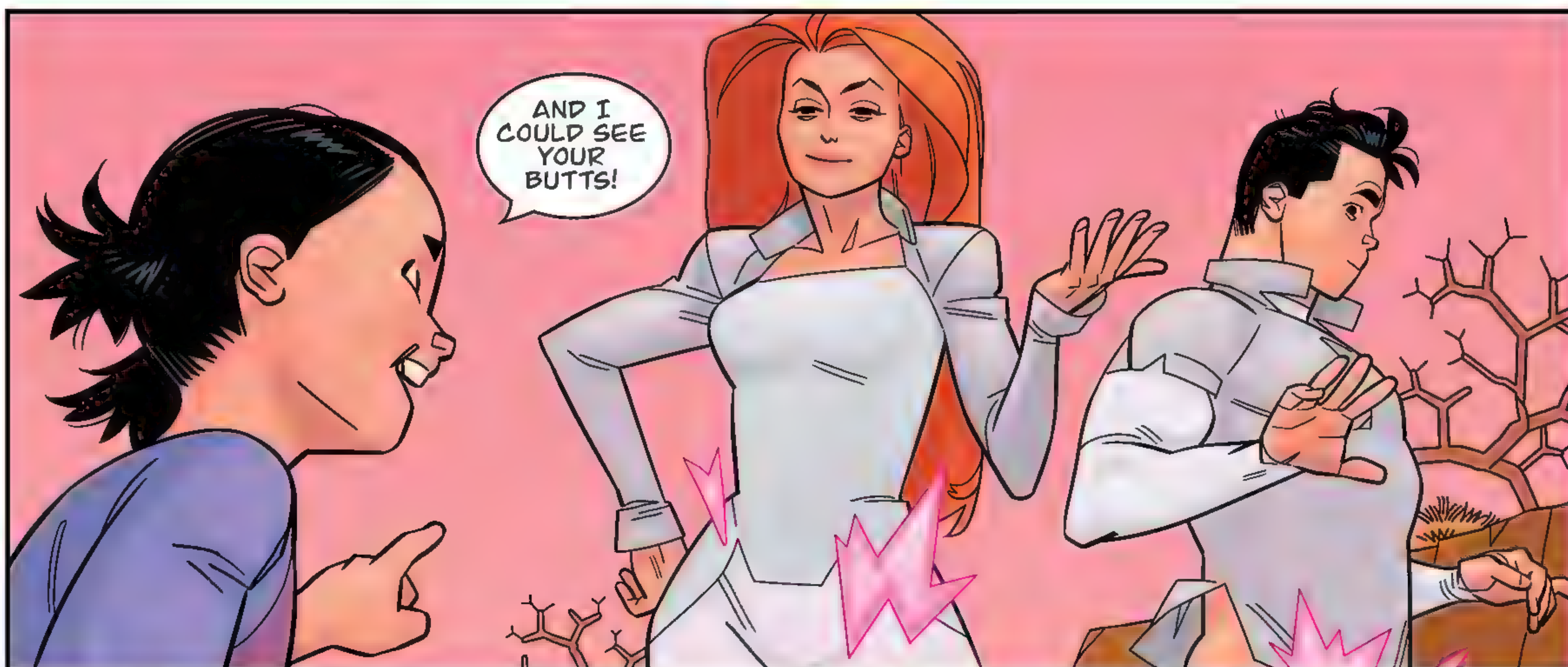


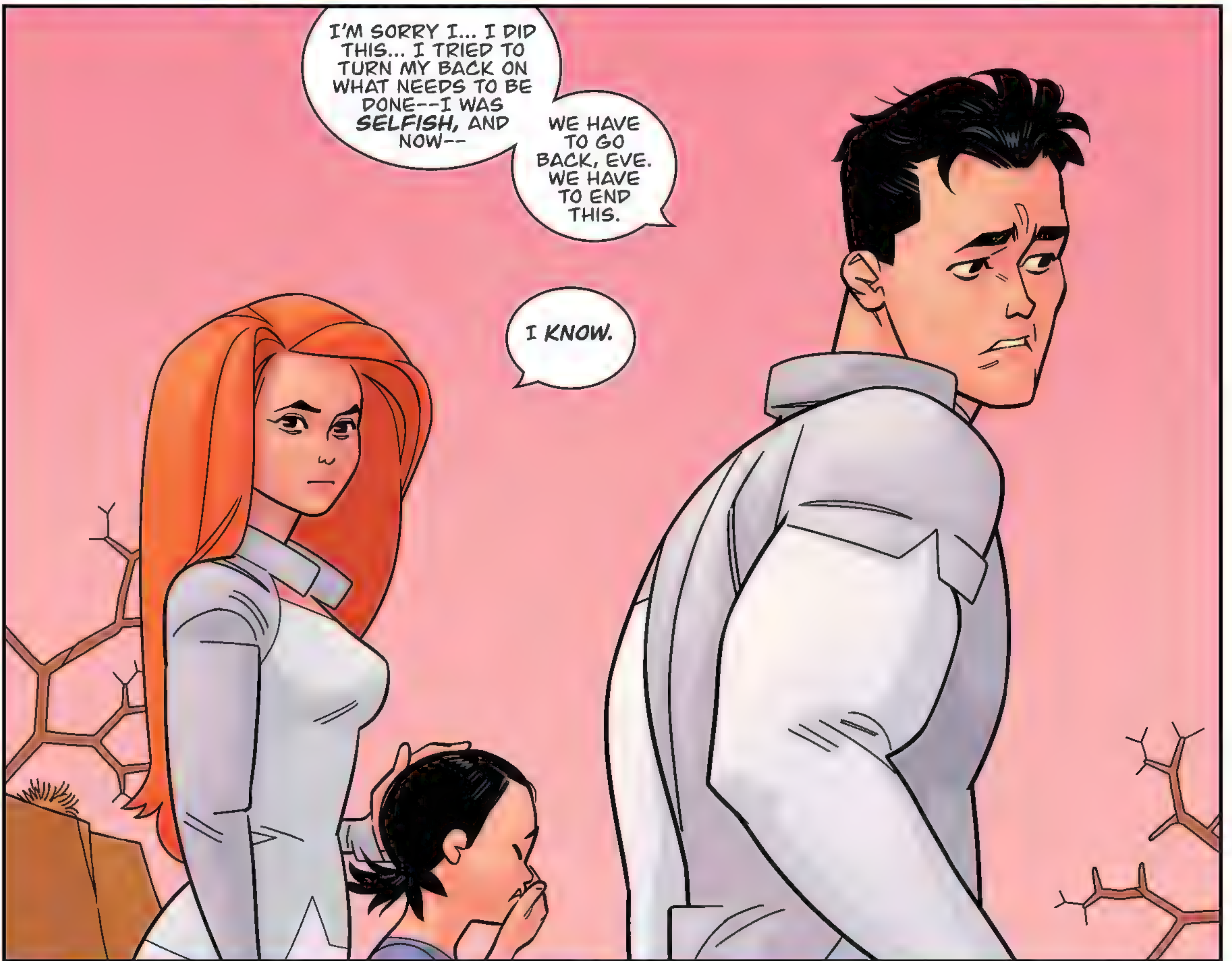
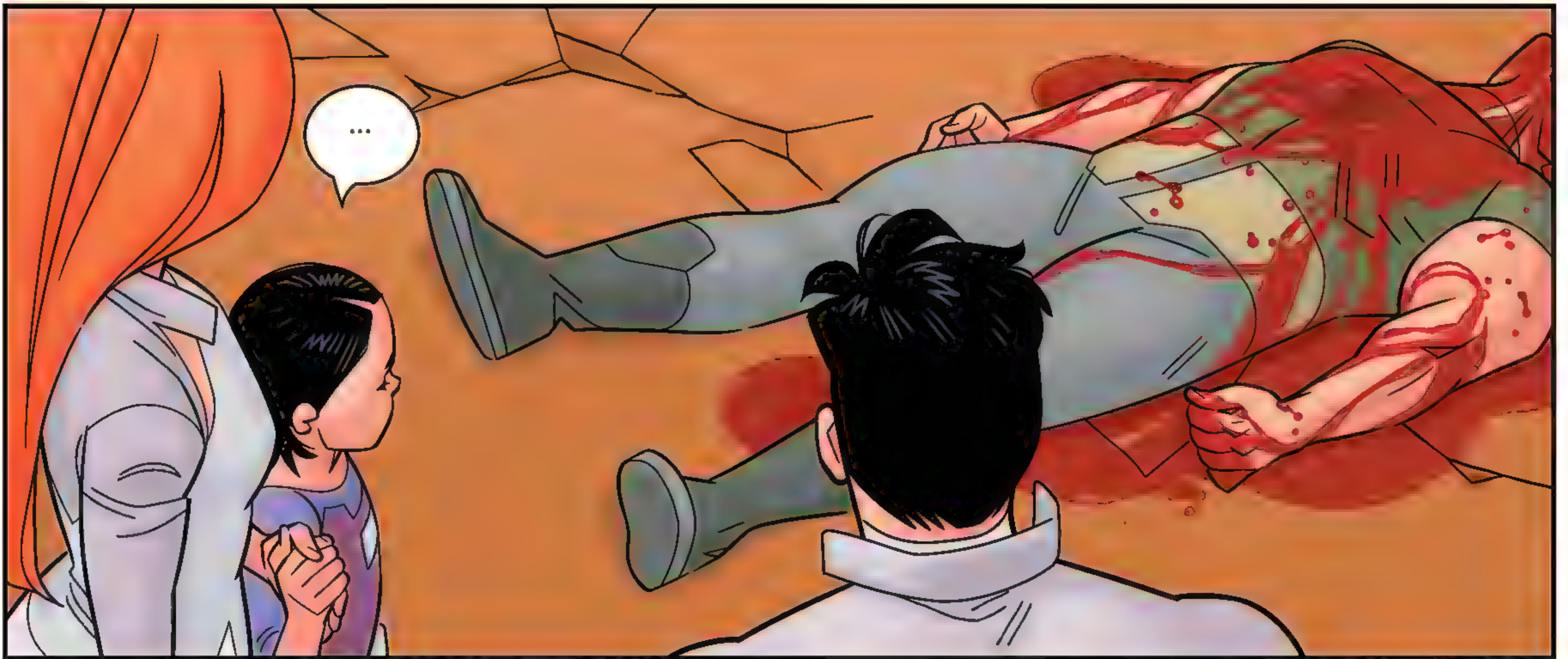






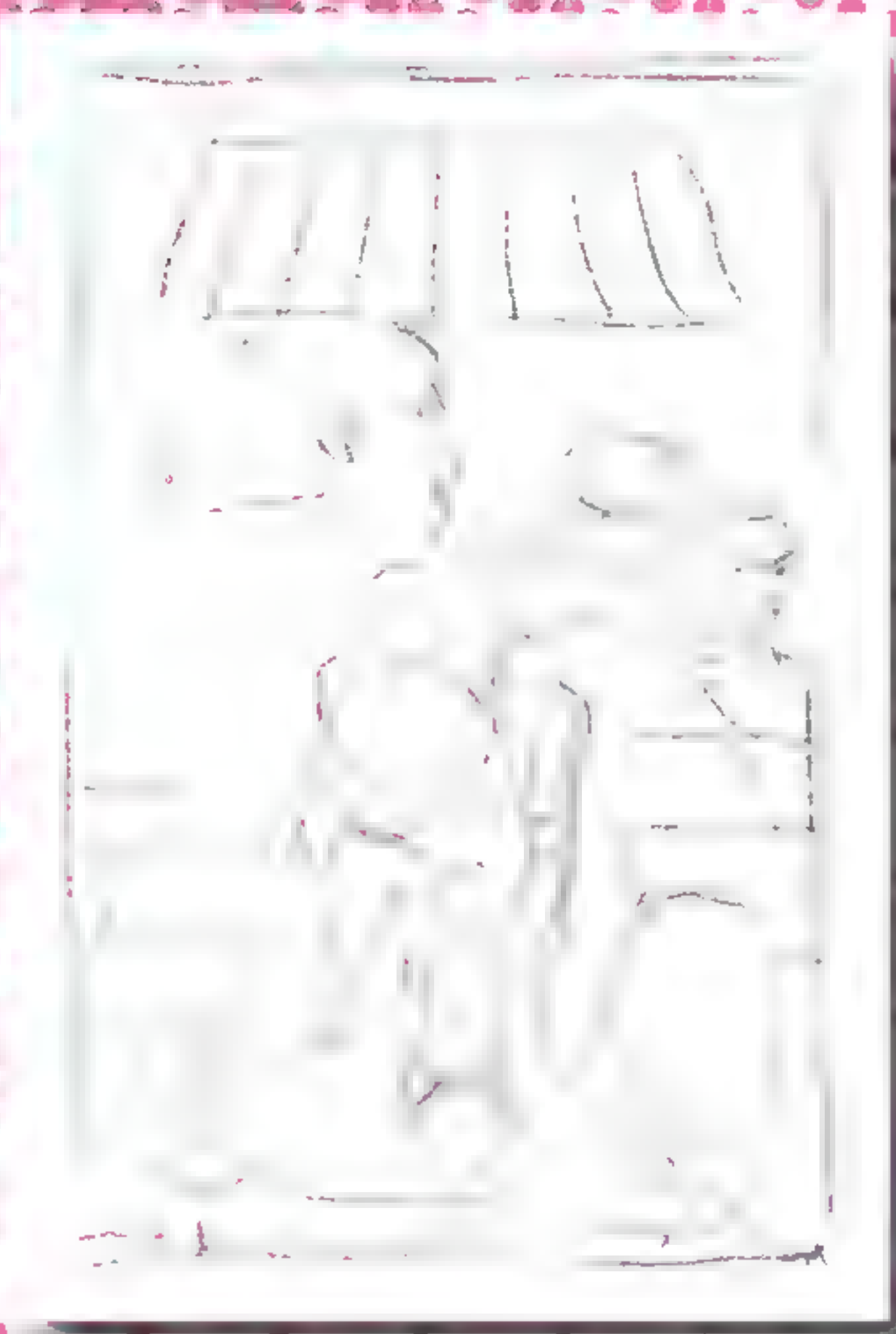






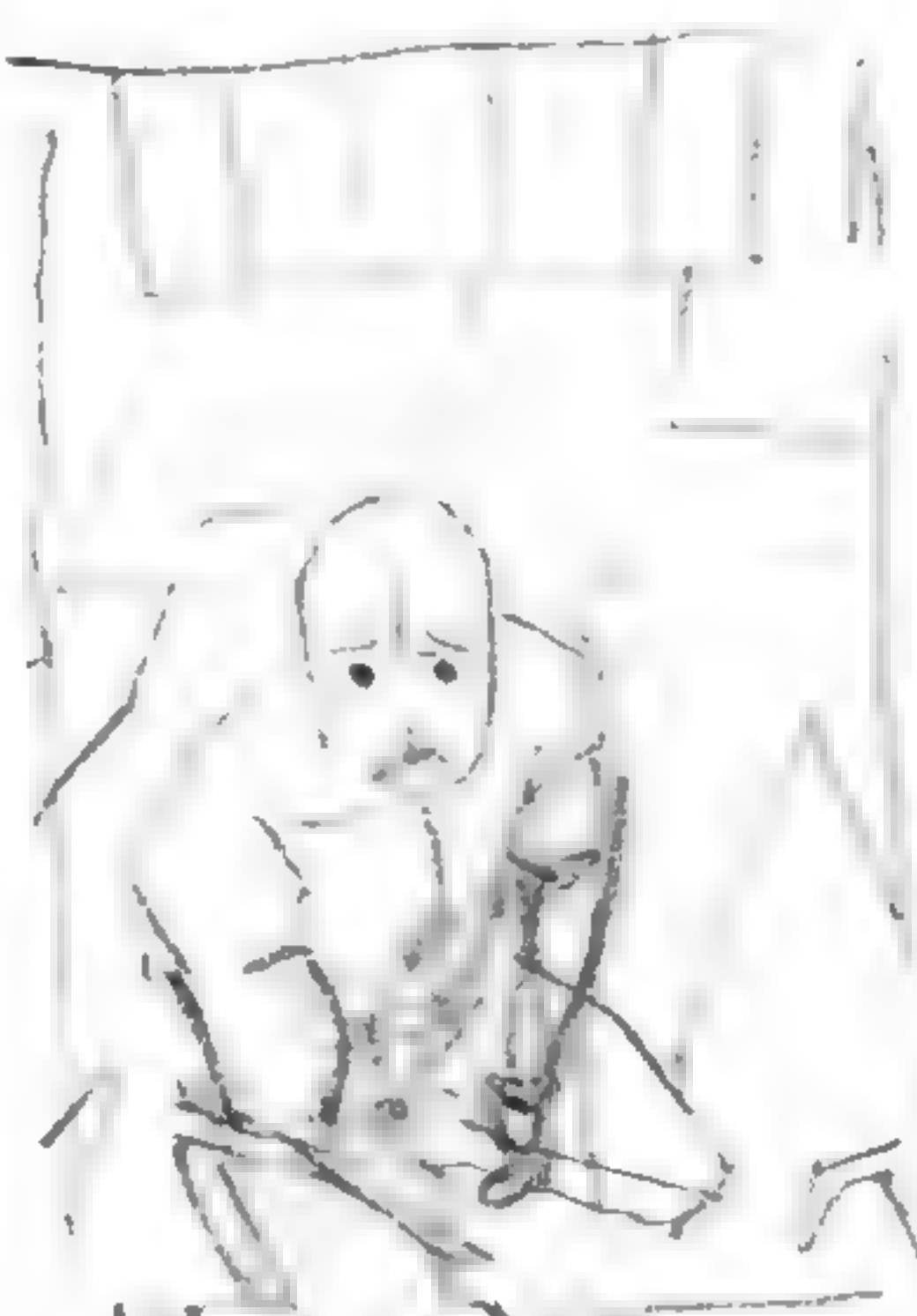


SKETCHBOOK



ROBERT KIRKMAN: Hey kids, welcome to the sketchbook section for Volume 23 (yes, TWENTY-THREE!) of **INVINCIBLE**. This is an extra-special volume because **INVINCIBLE** co-creator and all-around delightful human being Cory Walker has come back to this series for a full six-issue run, which is collected in its entirety here--but you already know that because you're not reading this first, right?

Always a delight to work with the young Mr. Walker. This time was no different. On this page, you can see his preliminary work for the cover to this volume, which is totally awesome. How cool is Terra? She's your new favorite character, right? She sure is mine.



CORY WALKER: Yeah, before we came to our senses, I was going to be doing covers for this run as well, and at the time, we hadn't realized that #126 would be out before #127 was solicited, and so we were trying to come up with something that hinted at but didn't reveal the time jump and Terra's older age. These sketches are all really weak and a great argument for getting Ottley to stay on covers for this run, so at least they served **SOME** purpose, am I right?

ROBERT: Well, Ryan doing covers was more to keep him in the mix than because we thought you couldn't handle them. That said, these were a little boring, but that's more my fault than yours! There wasn't much that could have been done without spoiling the time jump!



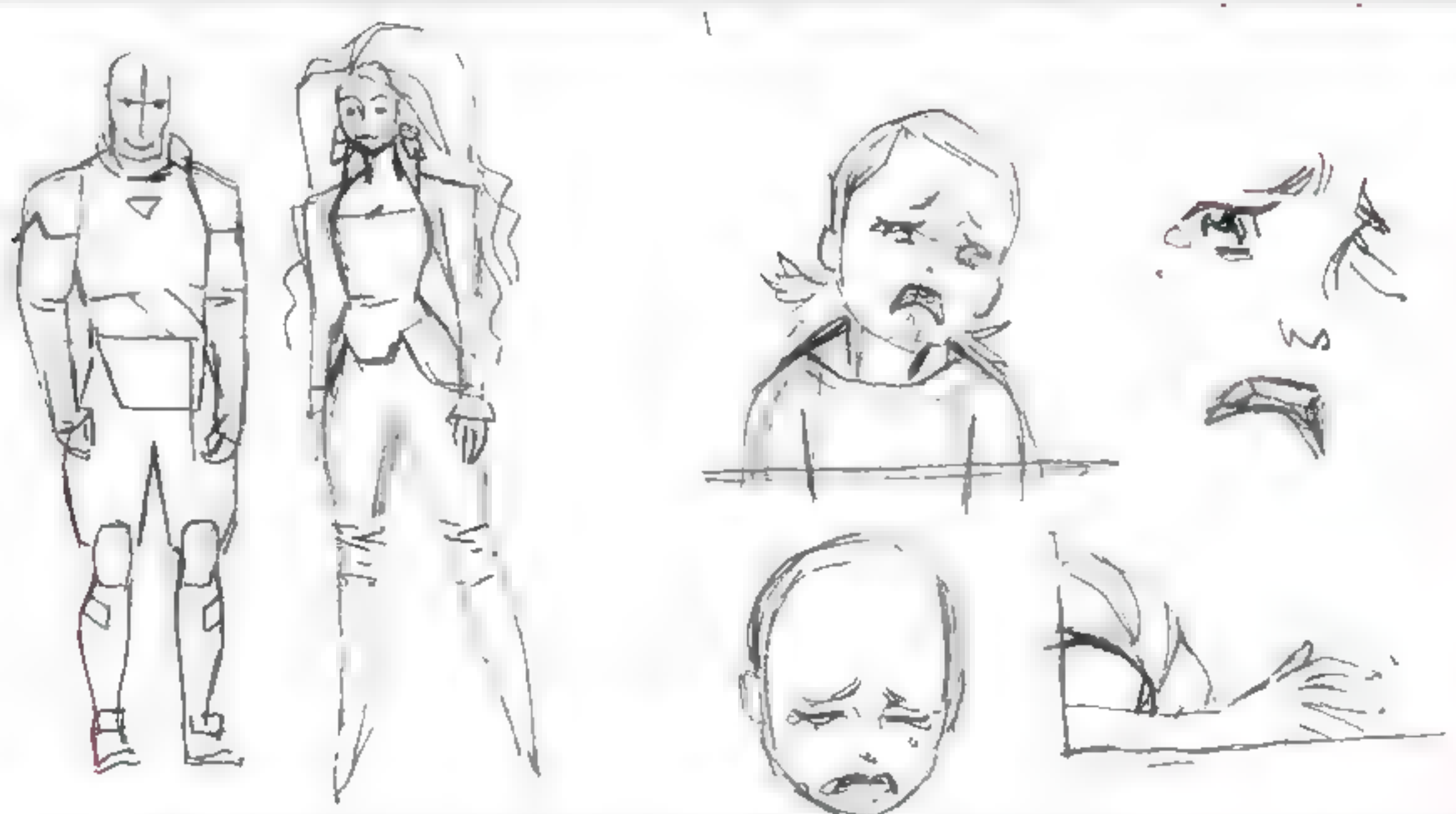
CORY: *I forget why, but I had been entertaining the notion of drawing some more INVINCIBLE before the inevitable end, and here are some sketches I did on the old Cintiq that I shared with Robert shortly before it was decided that I would be doing these issues.*

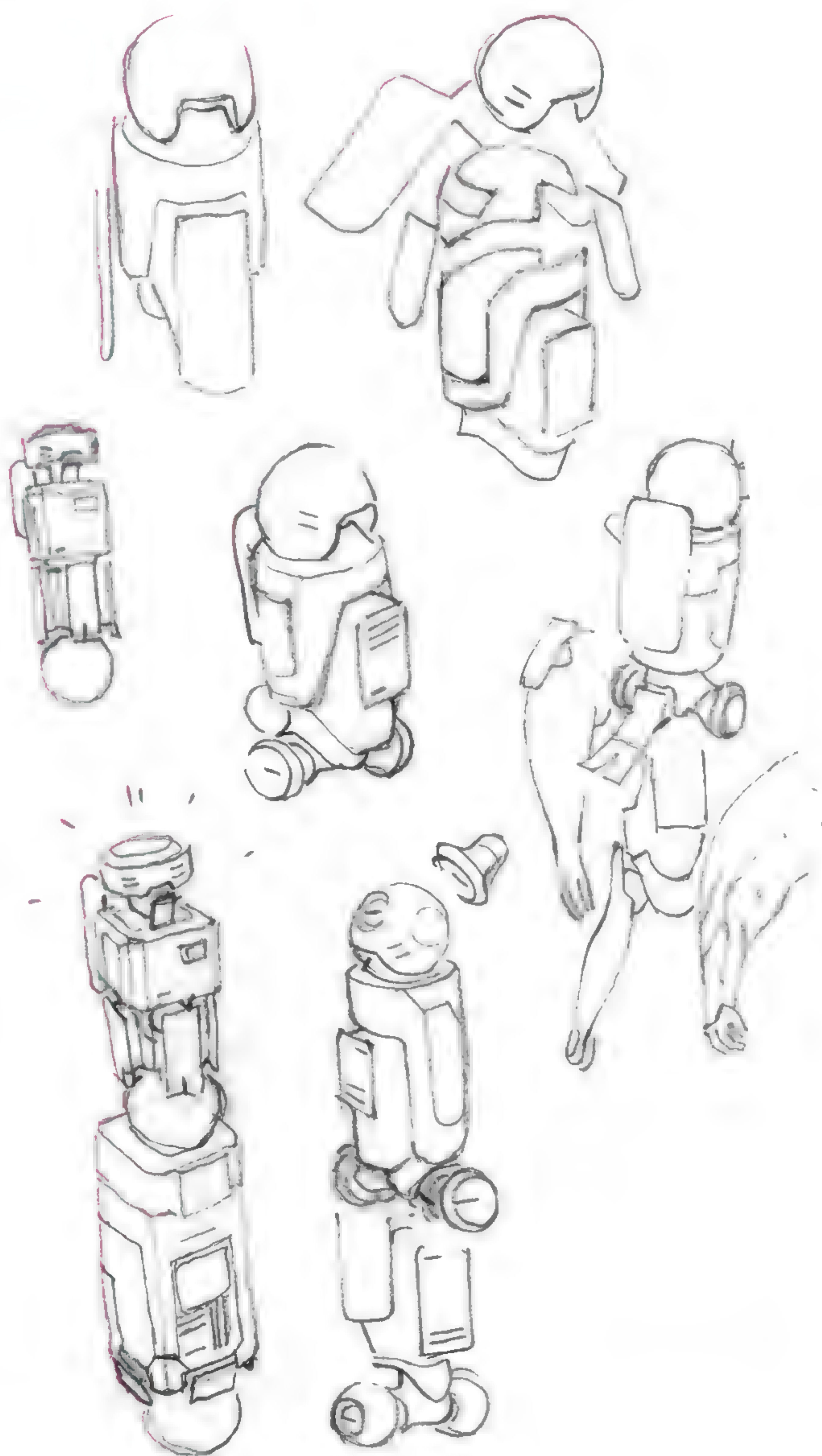
ROBERT: Great stuff!



CORY: Being out of their superhero costumes and on alien planets, I had to design a lot of different outfits for the various characters, and look, you can see some of those here. Also, my first crack at Haluma and adult Oliver as well as Allen wearing some sort of a sweet crown. Looks pretty cool. Maybe he should have worn that in the book.

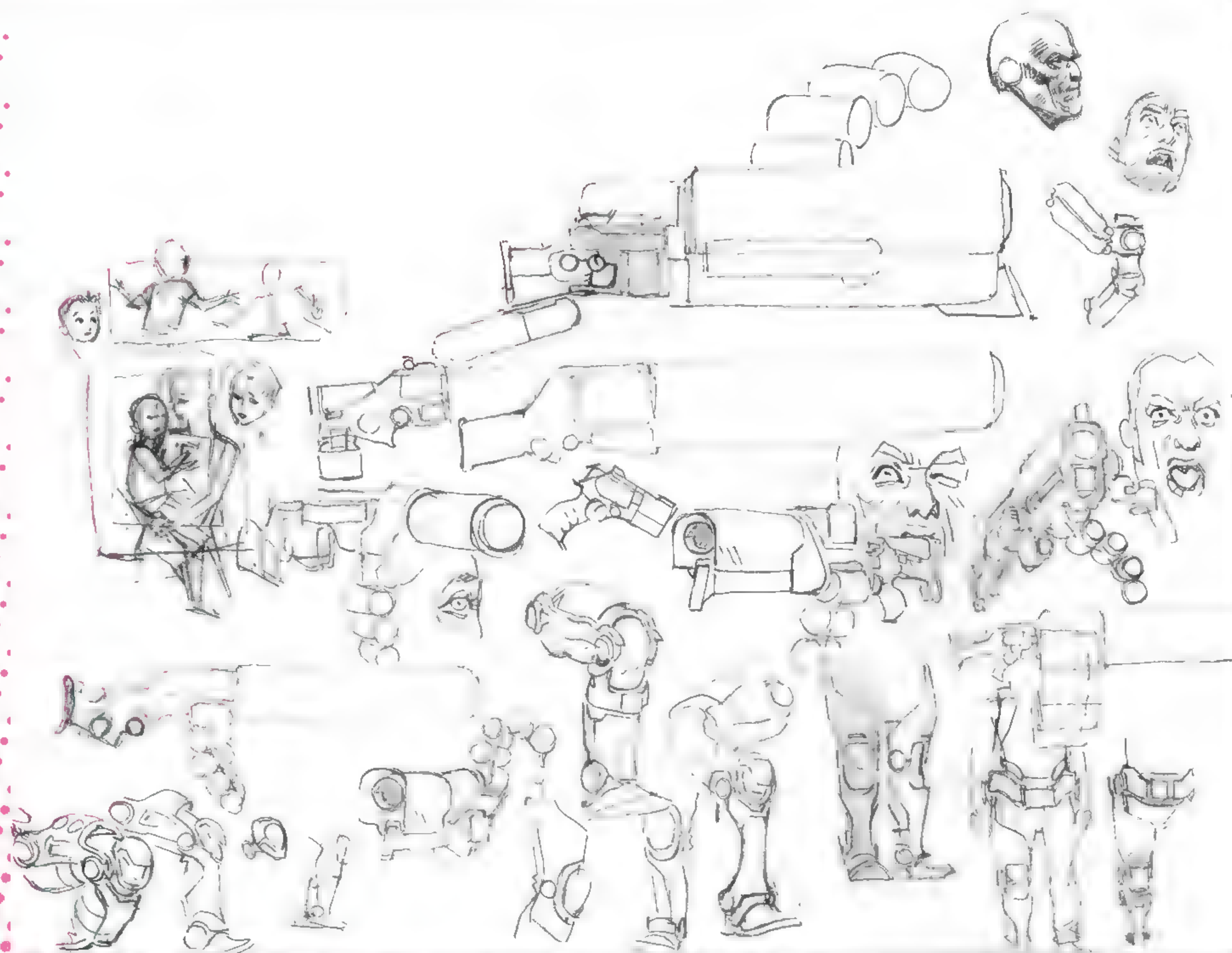
ROBERT: Allen with a crown would have been cool. What were we thinking? Anyway, gotta really give Cory credit for being able to just whip out crazy unique alien clothing styles. It's pretty amazing... and he at least makes it LOOK effortless.





CORY: Look, it's Eddy. At first he was gonna be cylindrical, but drawing cylinders is for the birds, so I went the other way with it. He was also briefly going to transform into a bigger sort of robot, and you can see the faintest hint of that here and how the pieces would separate.

ROBERT: Eddy! He was so cool... why did we have to kill him, why?



CORY: For #130 I needed a big ol' Liefeld gun and a rig to carry it, since Brit doesn't have super strength. The script called for a full exo-skeleton, but hey, I didn't want to draw that, and figured leg braces with a swing-arm that held the gun would be adequate, and you know what, I think I was right. I looked at knee braces on the internet.

ROBERT: I'm not one to admit when he's wrong, especially not in public, but leg braces and a swivel arm for the gun was probably the way to go. We get to see more of Brit, and it's a much cooler, more realistic and functional way to do that. I wish the gun had been BIGGER, though.



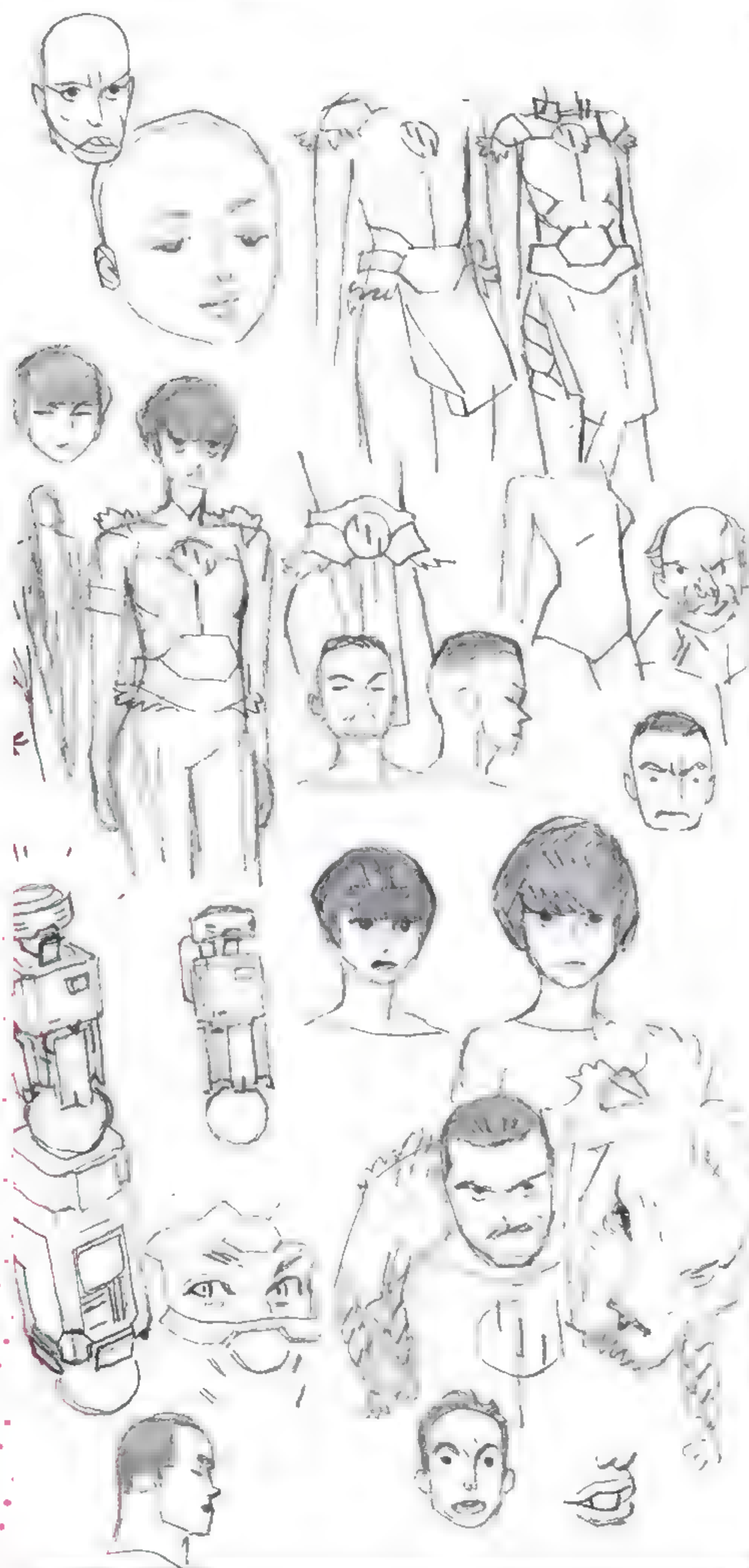
CORY: Trying to work out Rex here. Probably could have used more work, oh well.

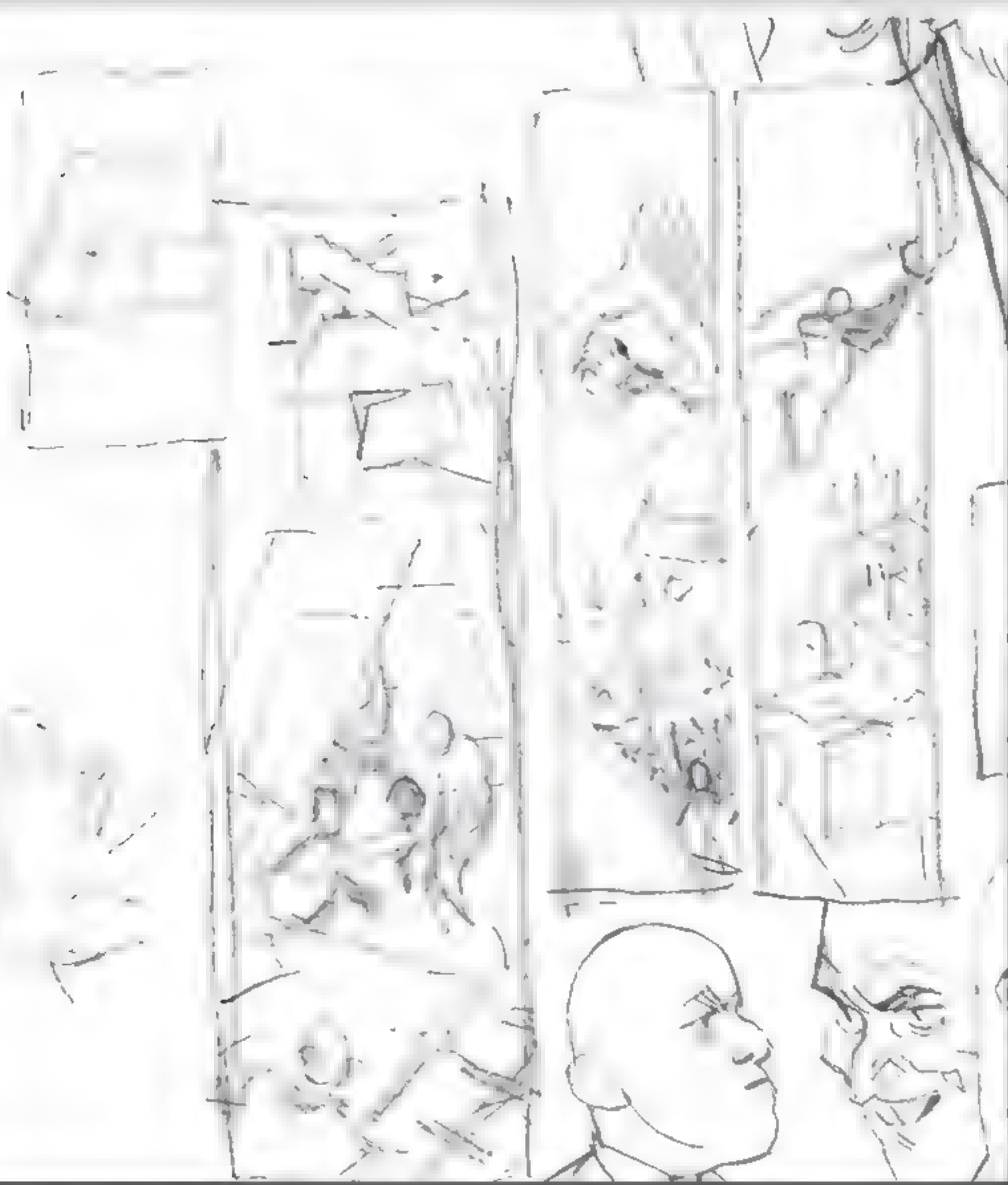
ROBERT: Bah! Looks great!



CORY: It was cool to introduce two important new characters to the book, and here you can see some of the process for Ursaal and Onann. Also, a little prelim for that Thragg reveal at the end of #127.

ROBERT: Oh, man... the fur parts... that looks really cool. You should have kept those. Those looked really cool.

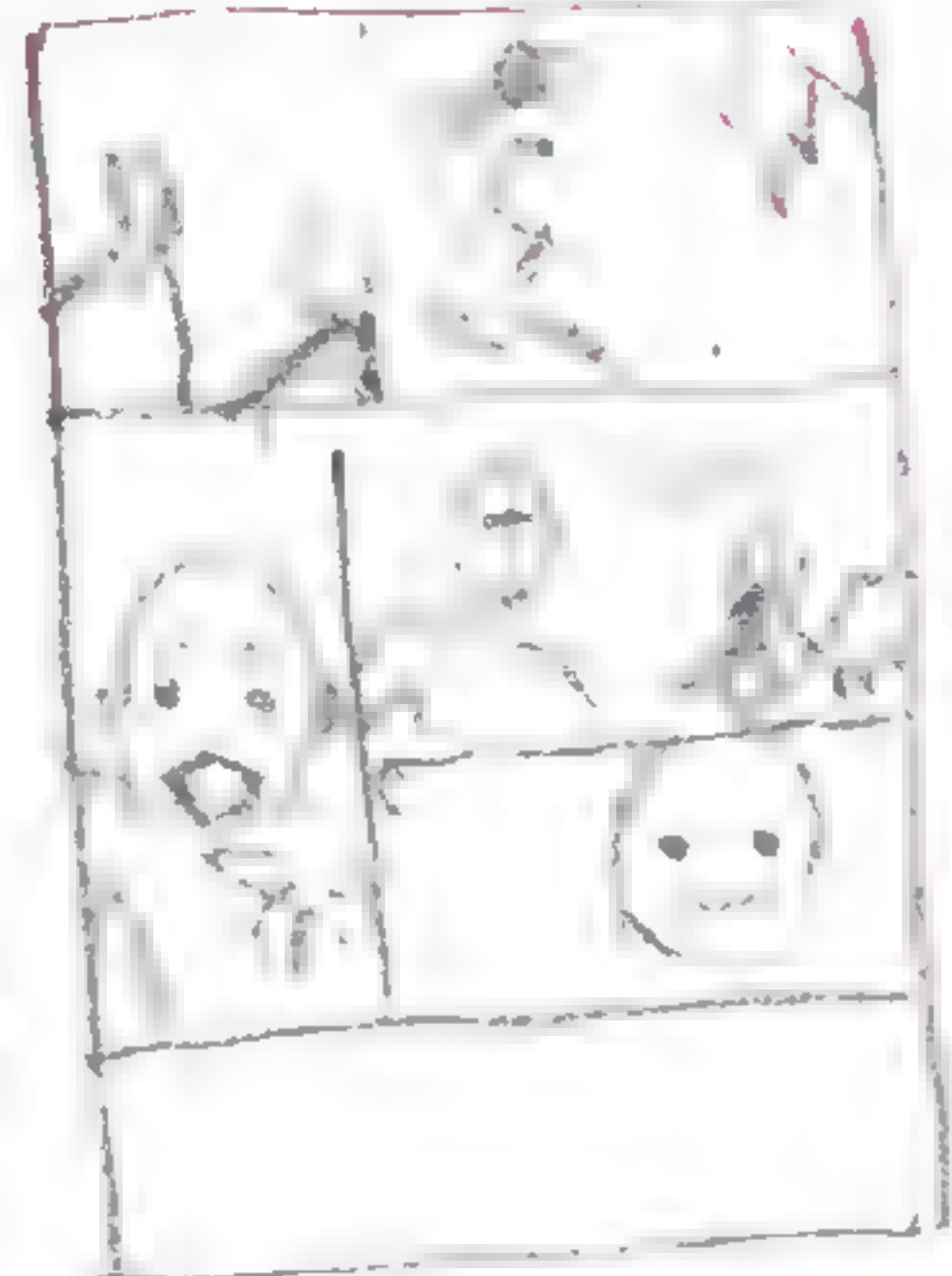




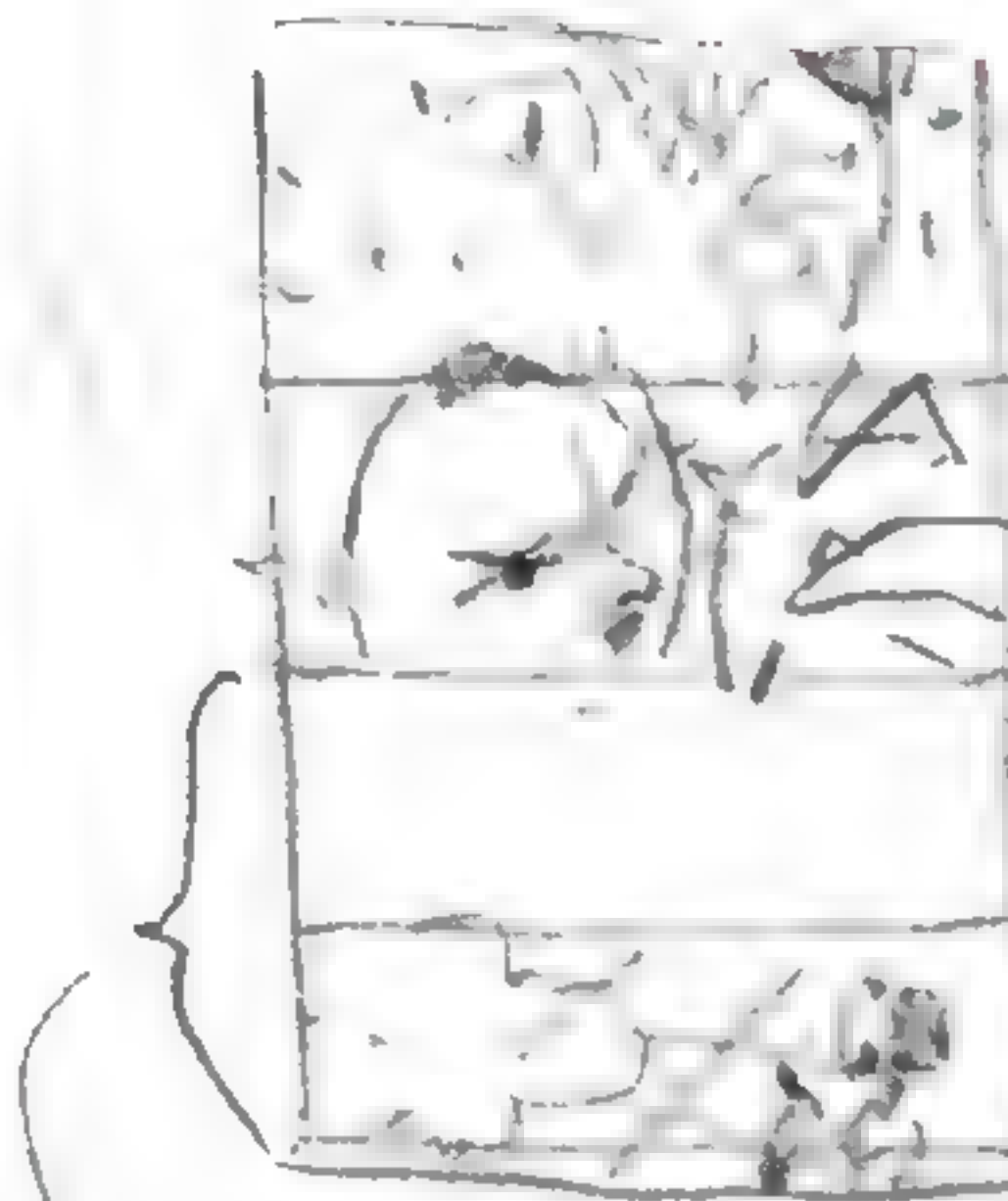
CORY: Various layouts and preliminary drawings. Enjoy!

ROBERT: Don't tell me what to do! Oh, fine. Hold on. Okay... I did enjoy them. Very much so.

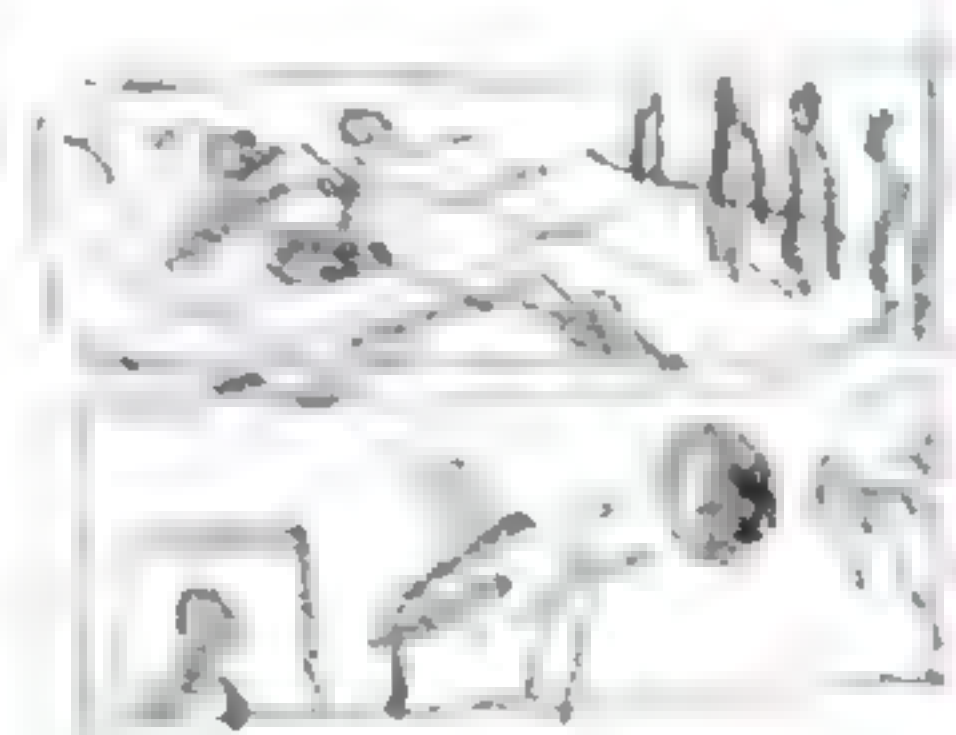
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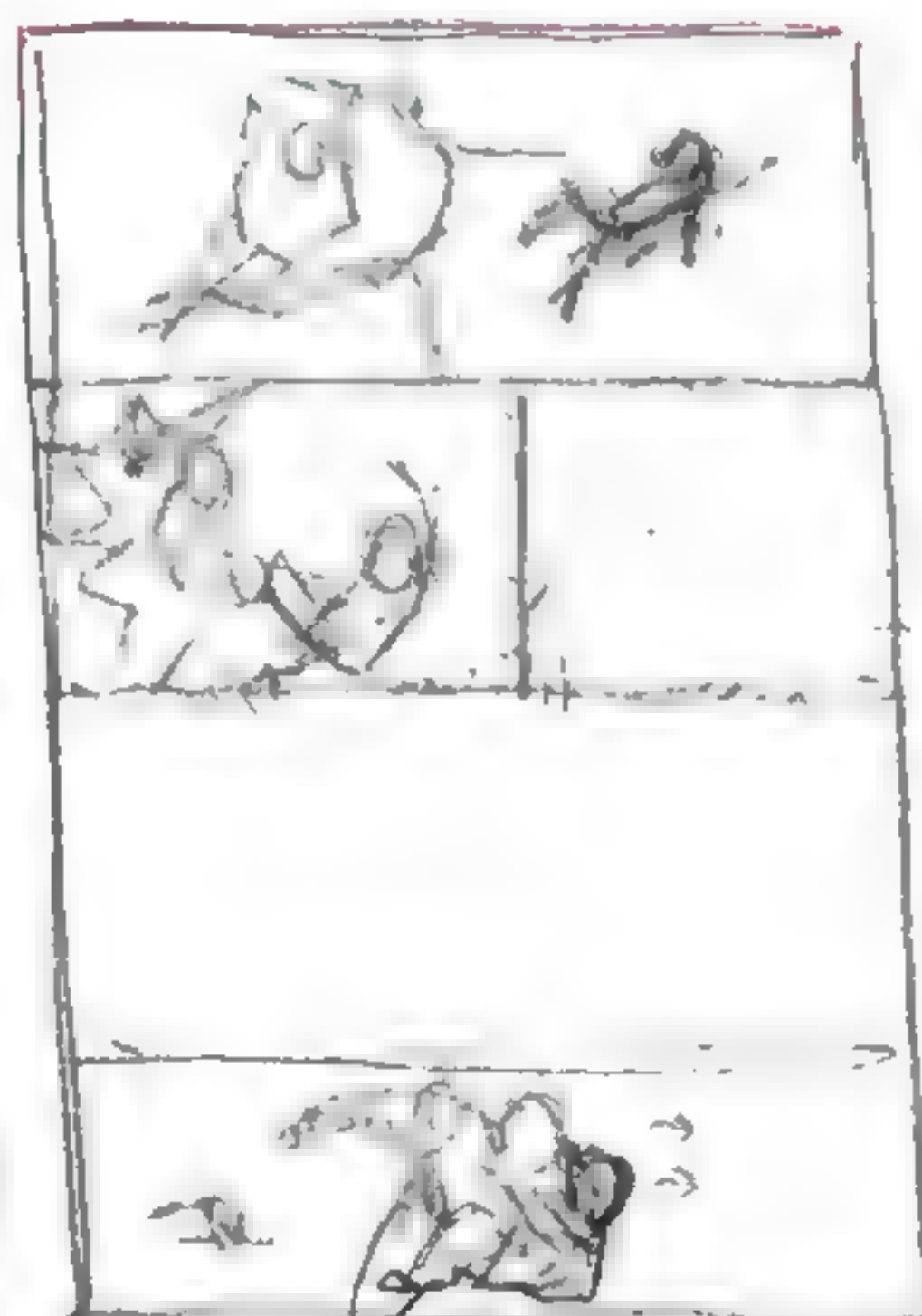
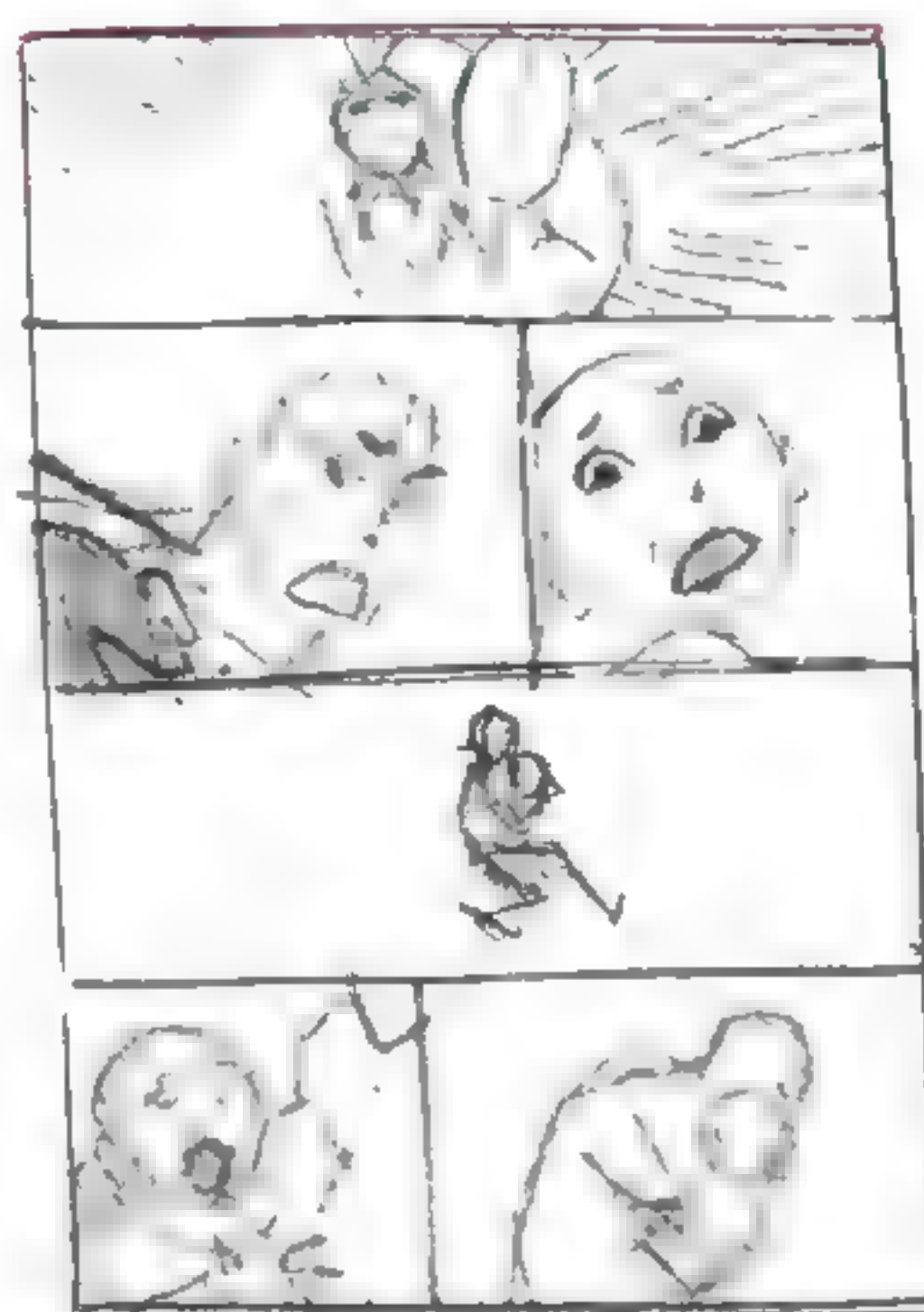
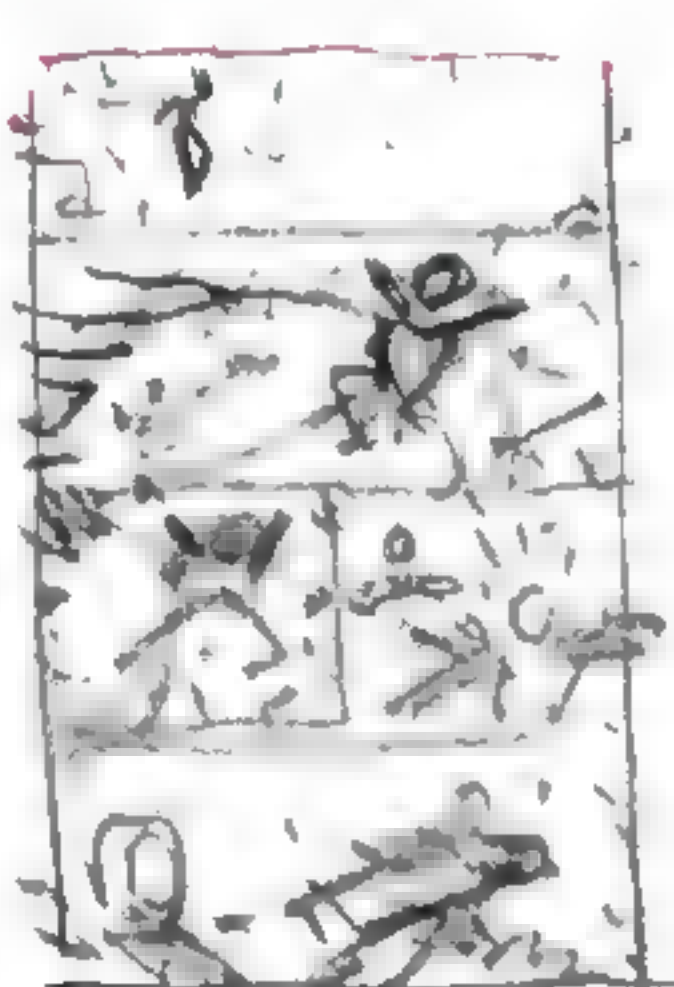
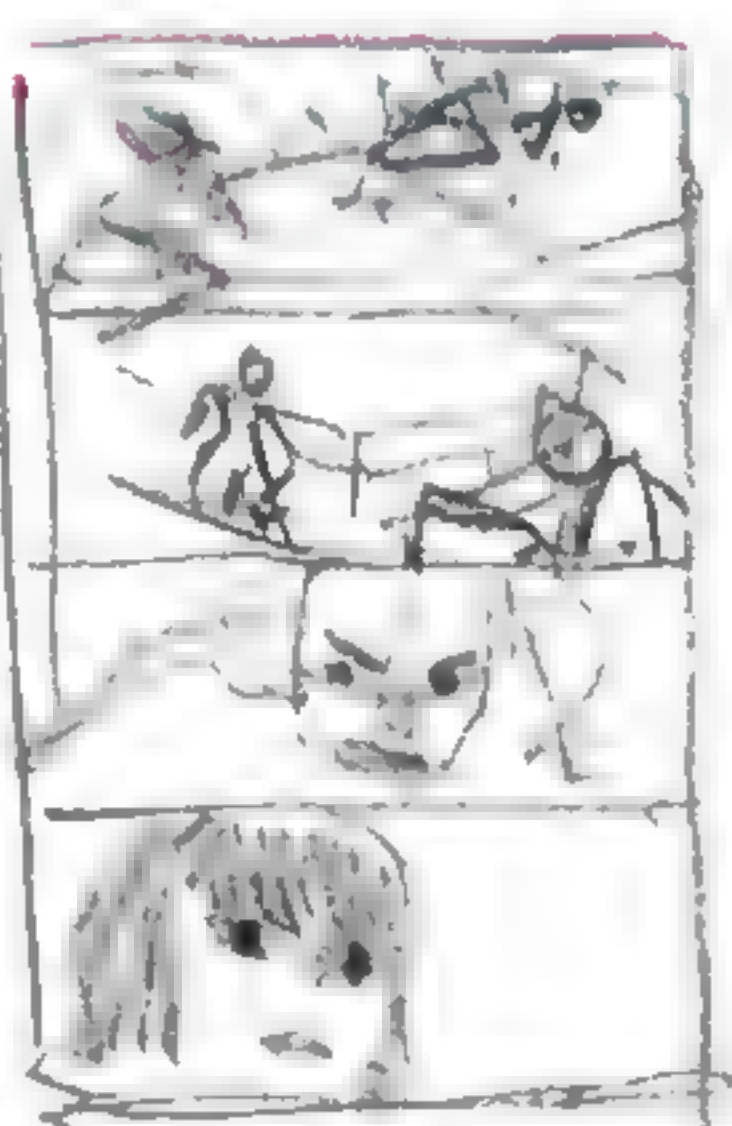
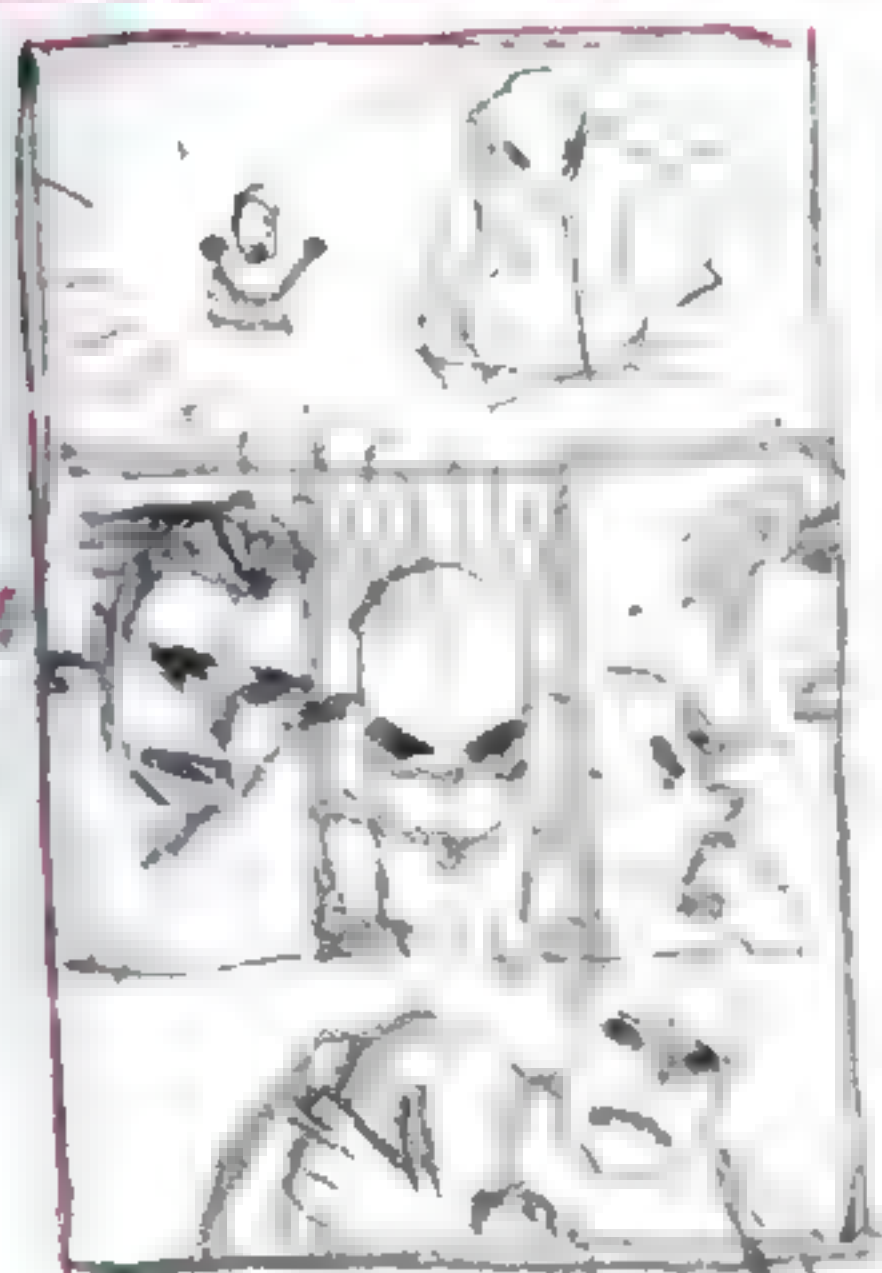


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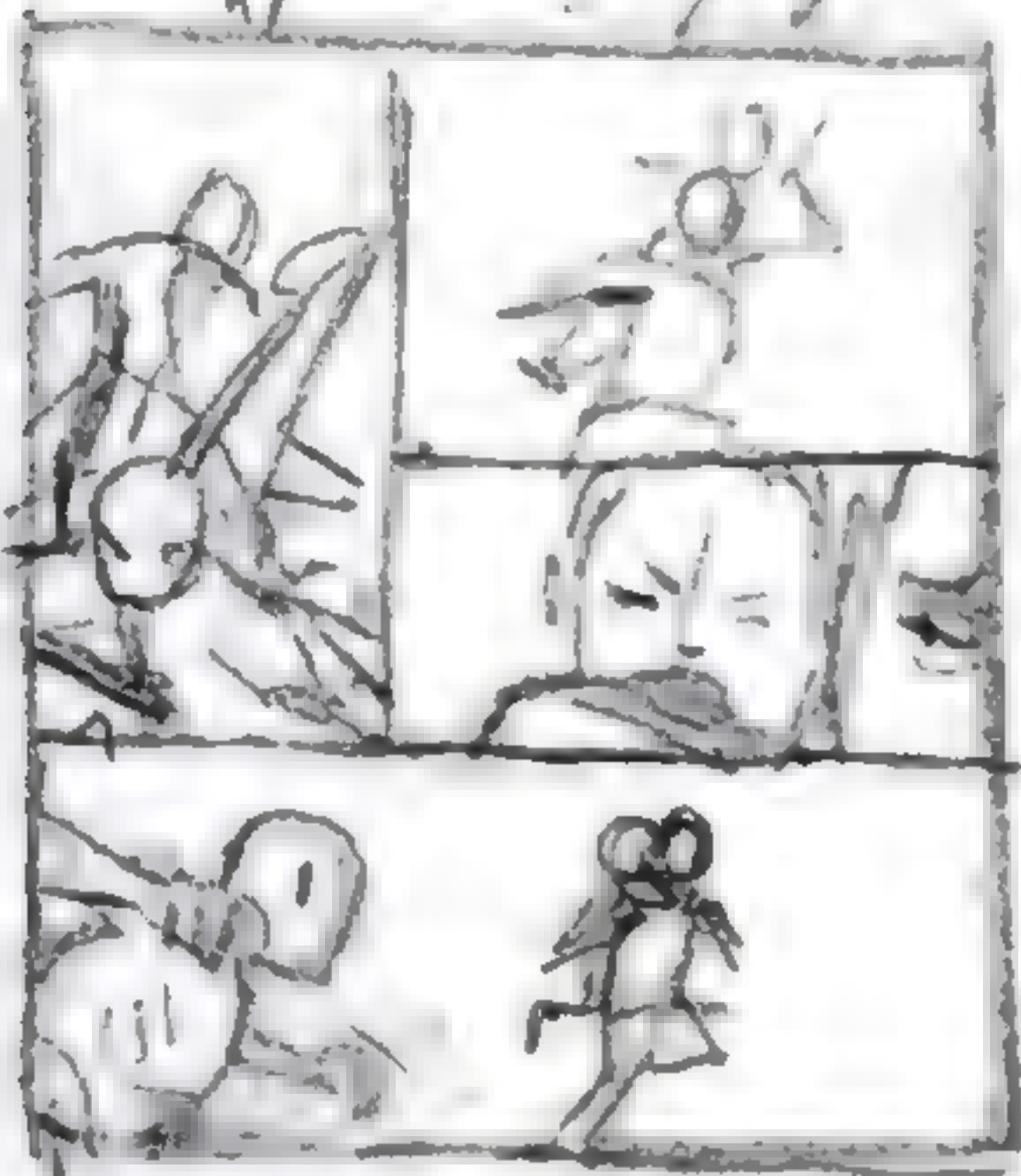




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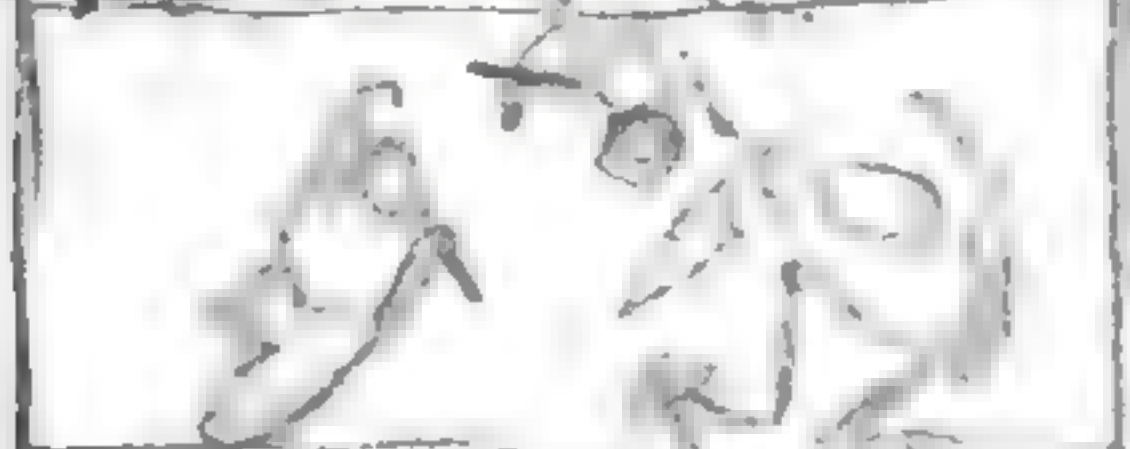


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sm



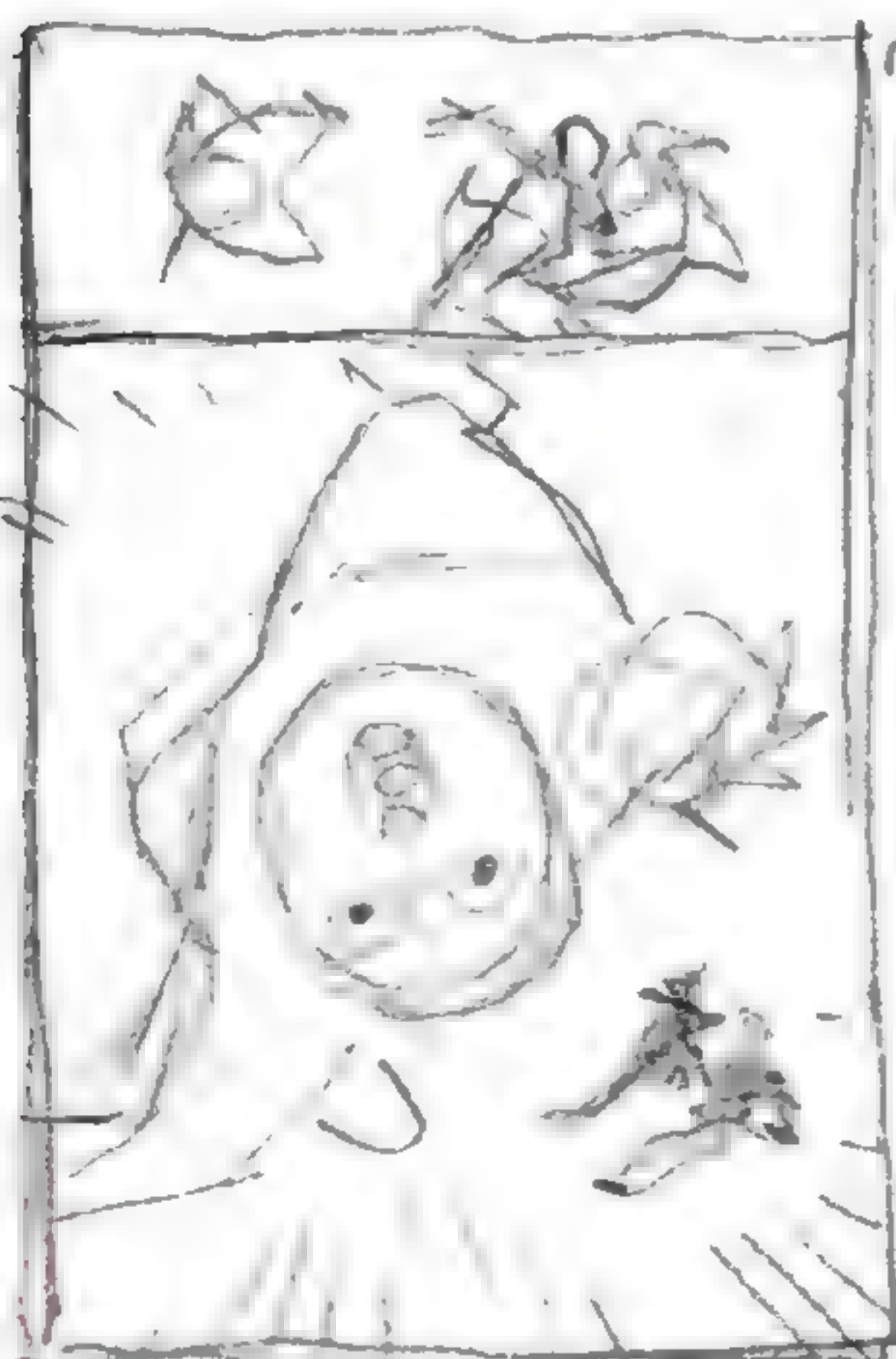
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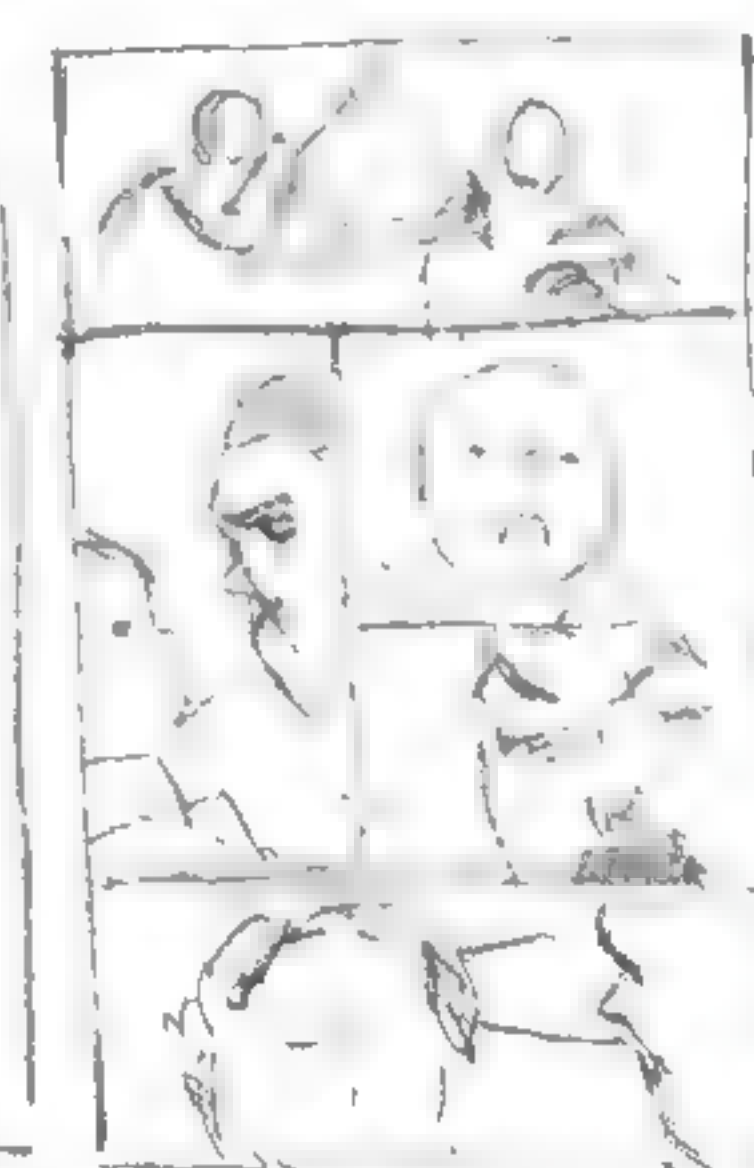
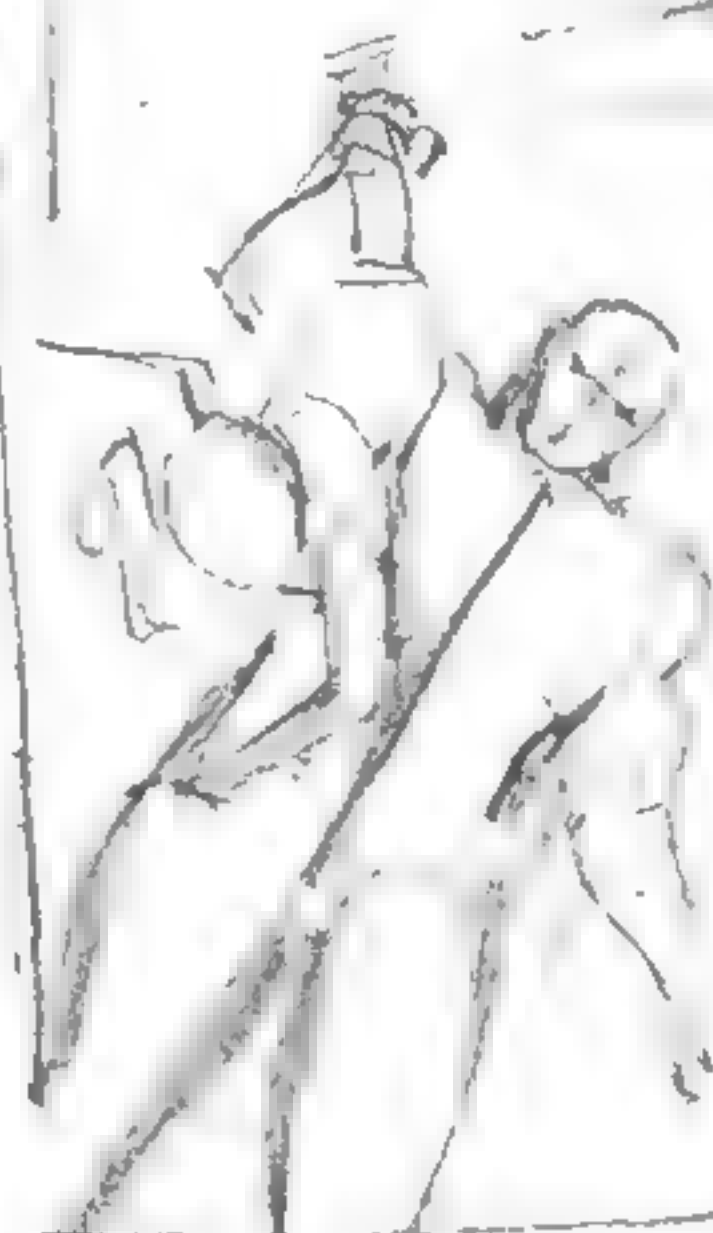
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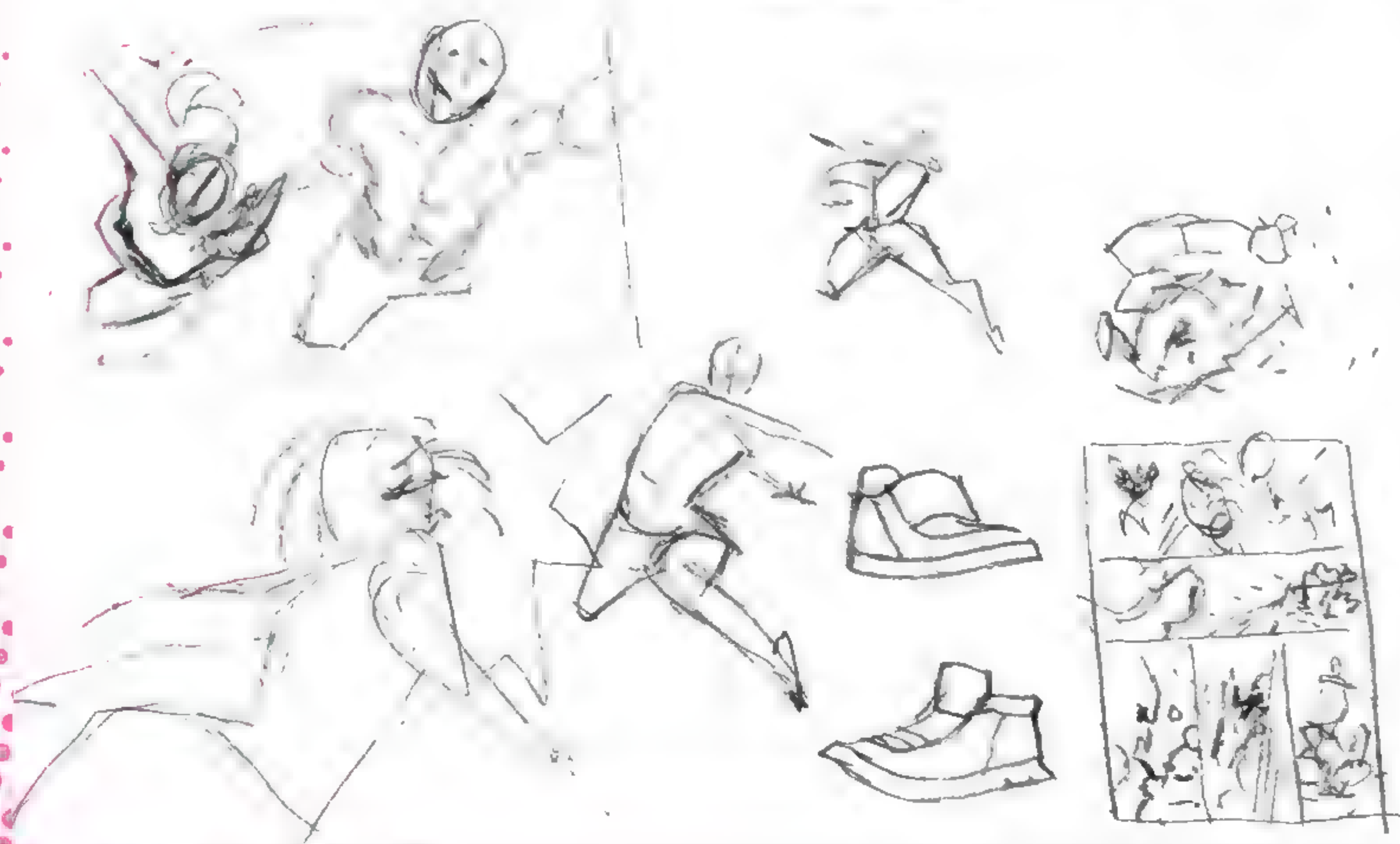
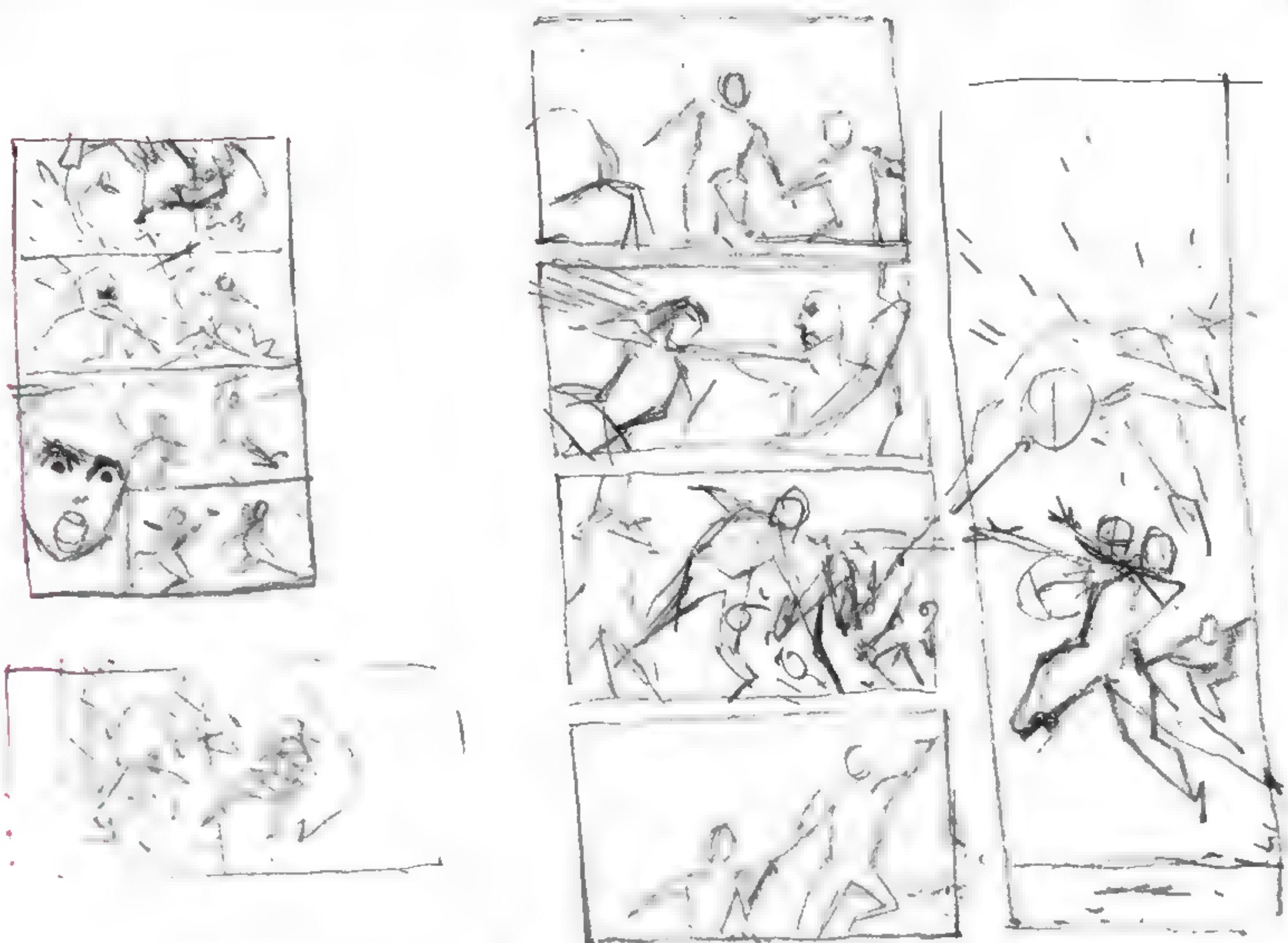
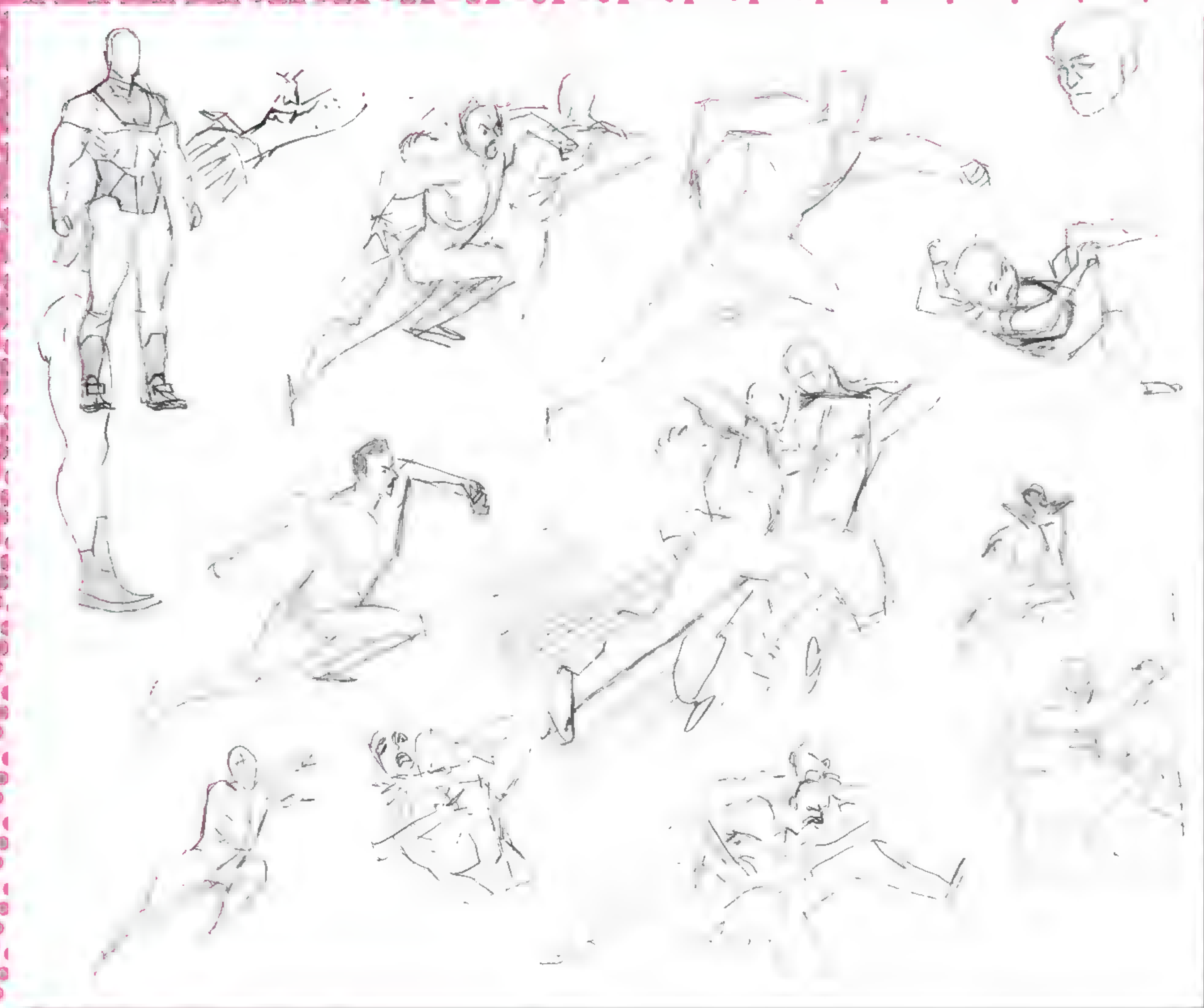


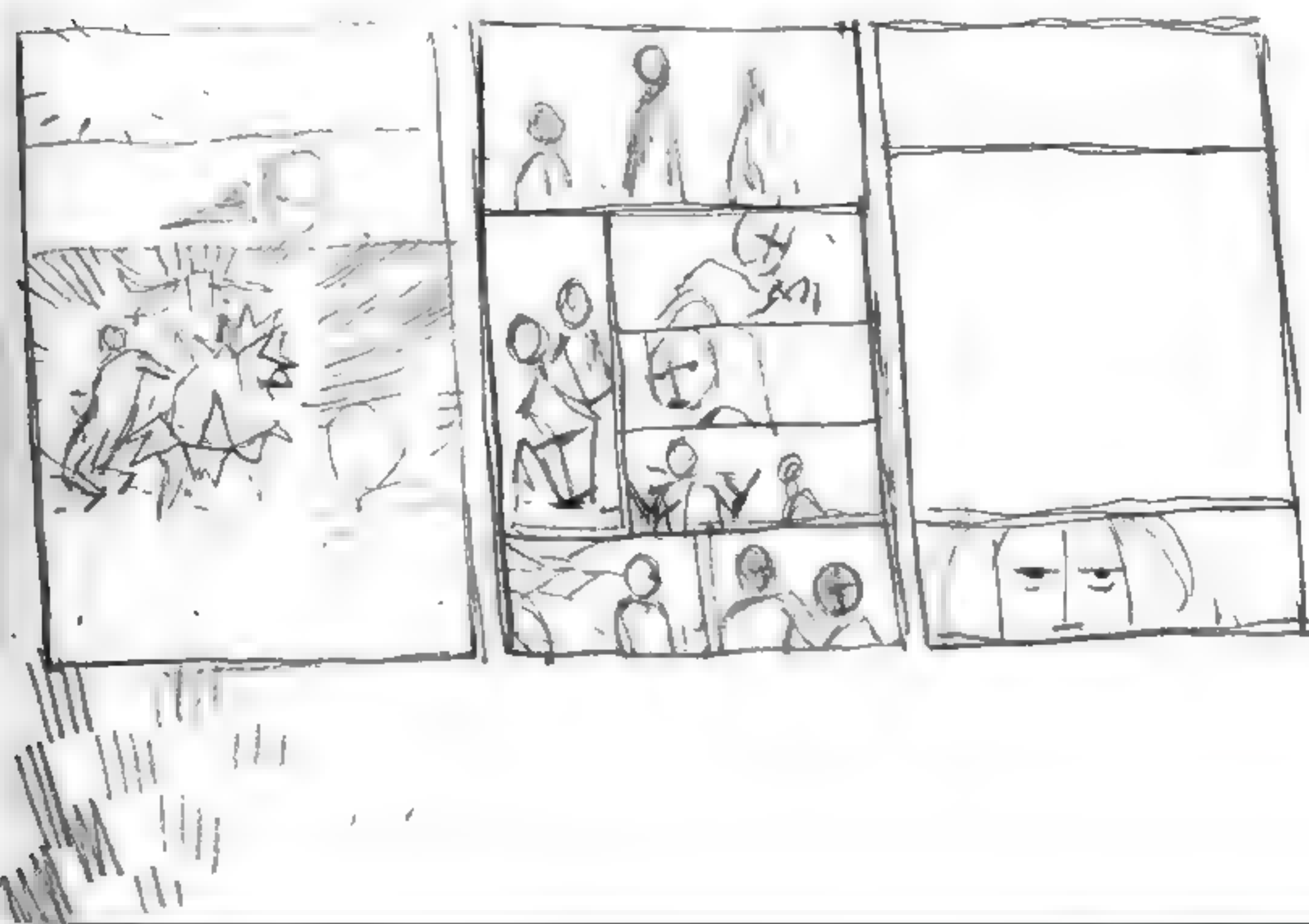
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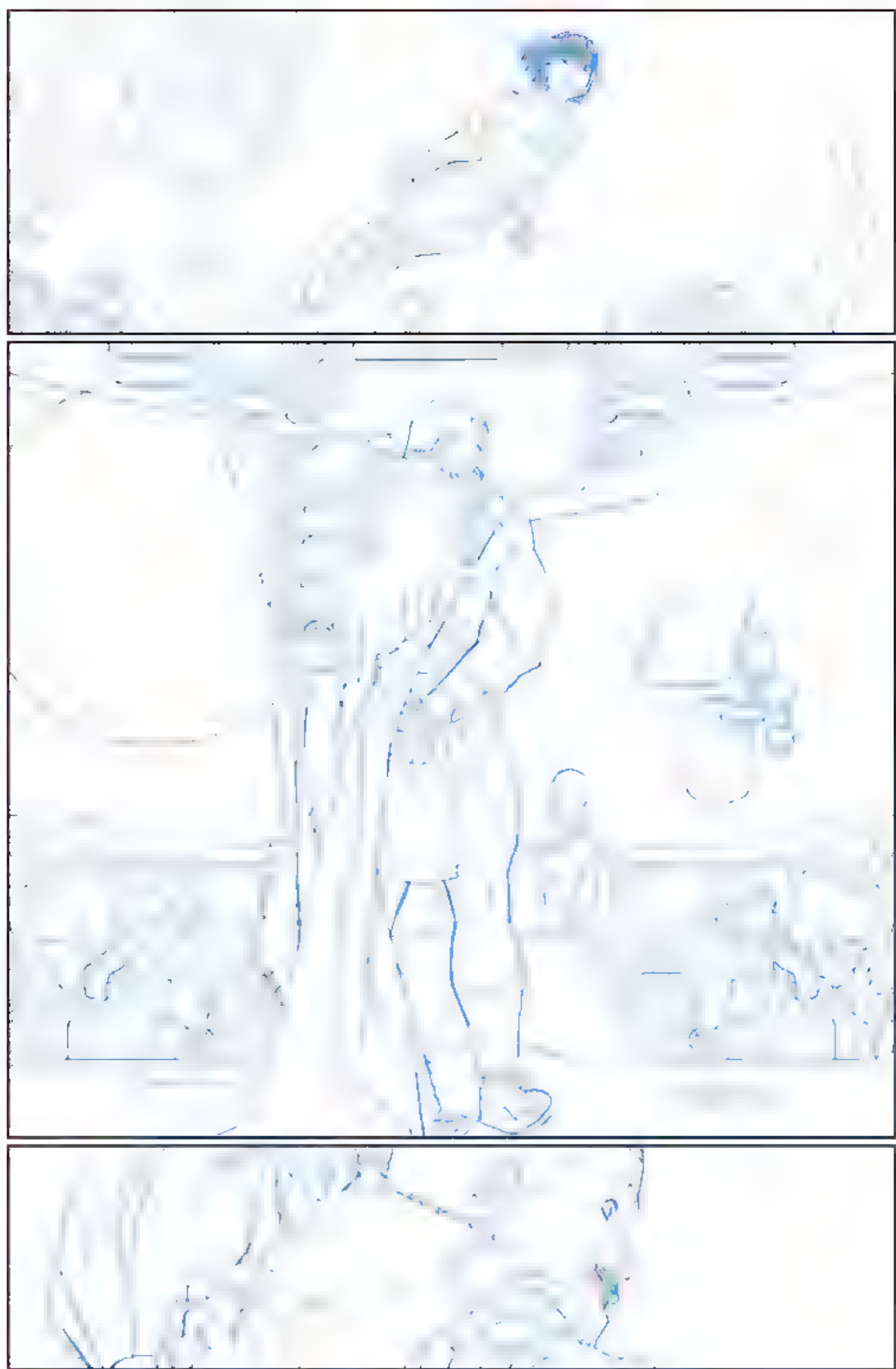
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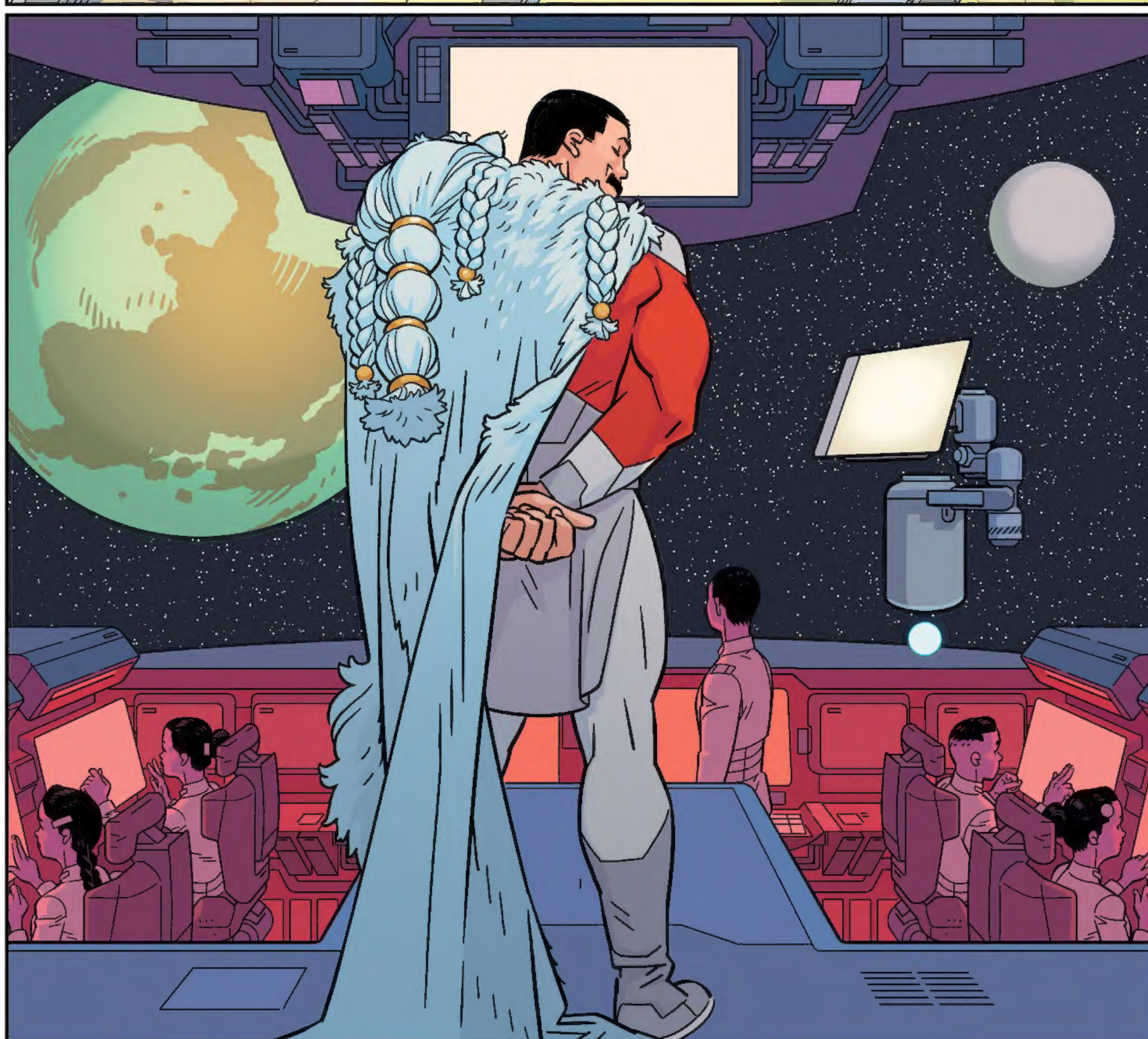




CORY: Process stuff is always fun and nice and cool, right? Wish I had rougher layouts for this page, but I don't, so we'll start with the pencils! Though blue here, I pencil in gray/black and convert to blue before inking.



CORY: And here are the inks! Working digitally, I can keep stuff like space and stars and planet details and shit on separate layers to make life easier for my esteemed cohort, colorist extraordinaire Nathan Fairbairn.



CORY: And wow, does Nathan ever work his magic. Just look at this for a second. Nice work, Nathan!

ROBERT: And that's how it all comes together! Like magic!



SUPERHERO

Mark has returned from the past to a very different future. Now he's taking some time off to pick up the pieces of his life and try to put them back together... while Thragg conquers more worlds in his quest to rebuild the Viltrum Empire. Will the Graysons ever find peace?



This volume collects issues 127-132
of the Eisner-nominated series.



SKYBOUND

IMAGECOMICS.COM
Rated T+ / Teen Plus

